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Tomorrow's weather 65 | 53



Pulse
of Wabash

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Do you have a passion for writing, photography and local sports? The Wabash Plain Dealer is now accepting applications for paid stringers for the upcoming winter sports season. To apply, email your writing and photography clips, cover letter, resume and list of references to rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

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Second Harvest to hold tailgate food distribution Wednesdays

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana has planned tailgate food distributions for 11 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4 and Wednesday, Nov. 25 at Bachelor Creek Church of Christ, 2147 Indiana 15, and 1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11 at Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St., North Manchester. Distribution is while supplies last. All are welcome, regardless of home county or reason for need. No IDs, proof of address or income will be required. If you are walking up or coming via a vehicle too small to carry a load of food, please plan to arrive an hour after the tailgate starts. For more information, visit www.curehunger.org, classy.org/campaign/hunger

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ISDH reports 11th, 12th local virus deaths

Large-scale downtown events canceled through the end of the year due to the spike in cases

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Since Saturday, the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) reported the 11th and 12th Wabash County COVID-19 deaths. Meanwhile, large-scale downtown events have been canceled through the rest of the year due to the recent rise in local cases.

The ISDH reported the 11th local death on Sunday and the 12th local death on Tuesday.

The rise in local cases has

mirrored the rise in both the state and country. On Friday, Gov. Eric Holcomb signed Executive Order 20-47 to extend the public health emergency an additional 30 days, according to Rachel Hoffmeyer, press secretary.

The rise in local cases has also caused this month's First Friday celebrations to be called off.

"After discussion with local government and medical professionals, Wabash Marketplace has decided to cancel First Friday on Nov. 6, including large-scale ac-

tivities on Miami Street, to reduce large gatherings," said Andrea Zwiebel, executive director of Wabash Marketplace, on Monday.

On Tuesday, Zwiebel said they had taken the further step of canceling the remaining events in 2020, as well.

"We will do our best to create small opportunities for supporting downtown Wabash this holiday season," said Zwiebel.

Also on Tuesday, Zwiebel said the Wabash Marketplace Board of Directors voted to postpone the Annual Membership Meeting originally scheduled for Nov. 12. The new date will be at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 21, 2021 at

Eagles Theatre, 106 W. Market St.

On Monday, Samuel Daugherty, Wabash County Veterans Service officer, said the Veterans Day services will not be held Wednesday, Nov. 11 on the North Lawn of the Wabash County Courthouse due to the spike in COVID-19 cases in the county.

"This was a hard decision for the Veterans Service officer, but as the cautionary measures continue into November, it could not be avoided," said Daugherty. "The ceremony would have included numerous speakers, service organizations, police, fire, EMA and other stake-

holders and invitees. Please enjoy this coming Veterans Day by remembering the fallen heroes who sacrificed so much for our nation, and the veterans still on the front lines of our defense."

Last week, Mayor Scott Long said he would keep the doors of City Hall locked and all business will be conducted by appointment only until further notice. Long said all city meetings will be either in person with social distancing or by Zoom meeting remotely. Long said masks will be mandatory to enter the building and must remain in place while conducting business.

See DEATHS, page A4

Voters take to the polls



Photos by Rob Burgess / Plain Dealer

Poll workers at the Town Life Center in North Manchester take extra safety precautions Tuesday.

Six voting centers open Tuesday in Wabash County

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

During an Election Day like no other, voters around the country took to the polls to make their voices heard. The following is an on-the-ground look at the six voting centers open Tuesday in Wabash County.

North Manchester Public Library

Outside the front doors, Robert Bucher, who is running for Manchester Community Schools board member, spoke to voters on their way in to cast their ballots.

Bucher said he had never run for office before, but last year's controversy over transgender bathrooms caused him to run.

"A lot of things going. A lot of pain in the community," he said. "I've been doing a lot of door-to-door, talking one-on-one with people. People need to be heard. They need to express that pain. The school needs to figure out

how to take back the narrative, rather than just people talking about hearing through the grapevine sort of thing. We need to figure out a way to kind of work together on things."

Bucher said he had been there since 5:45 a.m. and

was traveling between the two open sites in North Manchester.

"It's warm now. I've got my winter coat on. But it's doing really well. Pretty steady here," he said. "People have been sharing here too. I've been hearing

a lot of frustrations and issues. And a lot of tough questions. So, that's good."

Inside, Daniel Cornett, judge, was helping people get to the voting booths and instructing them on

See VOTING, page A2

Traffic stop leads to multiple drug-related arrests

Sheriff: Investigation led to locations, suspects in multiple counties

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

A traffic stop late last month led to several arrests on various drug charges in an investigation that spanned several individuals in multiple counties, according to Wabash County Sheriff Ryan Baker on Saturday.

Baker said at around 1:27 a.m. Oct. 27, Wabash County Sheriff's Deputy Corey Phillipy conducted a traffic stop on Randy Boring, 58, of La Fontaine. Baker said Boring was found to have illegal narcotics during the traffic stop. Boring was transported to the Wabash County Jail on charges of possession of methamphetamine and a syringe.

As part of the investigation into the traffic stop, deputies were able to obtain a search warrant for Room 129 of the Knights Inn Wabash. That search warrant was conducted at 3:39 a.m. Oct. 27.

During the search of that room, Tabetha Tyler, 30, of Wabash, was arrested on charges of dealing and possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana, possession of a controlled substance and possession of paraphernalia.

The illegal narcotics investigation then led Wabash County Sheriff's Deputies to the 1100 block of East Bradford Street in Marion.

Deputies obtained a search warrant for the Marion address. At 10 a.m. Oct. 27, the Marion Police Department ERT executed the search warrant. Located in the residence was Johnny Rowe, 39, Christina Rowe, 26, and Cameron Long, 40, all of Marion. The Rowes were residing at that address.

See DRUGS, page A4

Five applicants vie for two open WCS board positions

Interviews with qualifying candidates will be scheduled within the next few weeks

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

On Friday, Oct. 30, the deadline to apply for the open Wabash City Schools (WCS) board positions expired. But, before it did, several applicants made their intentions known.

On Monday, Mitch Figert,

Wabash City Council member for District 1, said they had received five applications for the two open WCS board seats.

Figert said the next steps would entail him reviewing the applications to ensure each applicant meets the residency qualification by living within the WCS district.

Figert said from there, they will set up interviews with all five candidates.

Figert said these interviews will be open to the public and will likely occur either later this month or in early December. I will make sure you are notified once the date is finalized.

Unlike MSD and Manchester Community Schools, WCS board members are appointed instead of being elected.

Figert said the Wabash City Council appoints the five board members to the WCS board.

Figert said they are one of the few school boards in the state of Indiana that is appointed, not elected.

The chosen WCS appointees will begin service on Jan. 1, 2021 and serve for four years.

Last month, Rod Kelsheimer, board president, said his seat would be one

of the two openings to fill on the board, along with the seat currently held by Tony Pulley, board vice president.

Kelsheimer said the terms for both seats would expire at the end of this year, and that he was seeking reappointment.

For more information, email citycouncil1@cityofwabash.com.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.



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Laketon American Legion to host Veterans Day dinner

All veterans are welcome 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11

STAFF REPORT

The Laketon American Legion Sunset Post No. will host a Veterans Day dinner from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11 at

10140 N. Troyer Road, Laketon, according to Thelma Butler.

Butler said all veterans are welcome to this event.

The Laketon American Legion building is open

from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays for breakfast and lunch.

On Veterans Day, dinner is \$8 for non-veterans.

For more information, call 260-438-0341.

Wabash VFW Post No. 286 to hold hand beer-battered fish dinner Friday

STAFF REPORT

The Wabash Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post No. 286 will hold a hand beer-battered fish dinner from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 6 at 3678 W. Old 24, according to

Dan Ford.

The menu will include hand beer-battered fish, baked beans, coleslaw and hush puppies.

The cost is \$9 per person. Carry-out will be available. The event will be open to the public.

For more information, call 260-563-2463.

NMPL announces Write a Recipe Contest

Winners will be announced Monday, Nov. 30

STAFF REPORT

The North Manchester Public Library (NMPL) has announced its Write a Recipe Contest, according to Jeanna Hann, adult department manager and marketing coordinator.

“Food is a big deal in November and what better way to commemorate that than with a recipe contest? But in typical NMPL fashion, this contest will have a twist,” said Hann. “We want patrons to write their own recipes; no peeking in cookbooks allowed. If you’re a teen or adult, this is your chance to try on the chef’s hat of a professional recipe developer. Or maybe you’ll go the goofy route.”

Hann said children should look at the following recipe written by a 3-year-old former staffer who was published in a magazine:



Provided photo

The North Manchester Public Library (NMPL) has announced its Write a Recipe Contest.

Strawberry Cake

4 cups honey
4 cups peanut butter
4 cups butter
4 cups ice cream

Stir it around then roll it.

Then, cook it for 1 hour in the oven.

The NMPL is accepting submissions through November for the following categories: 6 and under, 7 to 12, Teen and Adult.

Recipes may be submitted at the library or by emailing

nmpl@nman.lib.in.us. Remember to include names and ages.

Recipes will be posted on the NMPL website and Facebook page for the reading enjoyment of all our patrons. The winning submissions in each category will receive a set of Silicone Muffin Molds, a Danish Dough Whisk and a Mixing Bowl.

Winners will be announced Monday, Nov. 30.

Manchester creates a full-ride Honors Scholarship

Five Trustee Scholarships also awarded each year from among those who apply

By ANNE GREGORY

Manchester University has added a full-ride Honors Scholarship that covers tuition, fees, room and board for up to four years.

Admitted honors students who qualify as Dean’s and Presidential Scholars will be invited to apply for the scholarship. One Honors Scholarship is awarded, with five Trustee Scholarships awarded each year from among those who apply.

Trustee Scholarships are up to \$24,000 per year for up to four years.

Recipients will be selected from among applicants who apply by Monday, Nov. 30. Interviews for the Honors Scholarship will be conducted in early December.

“The Honors Program at Manchester provides ac-



Provided photo

Associate Professor Tim McKenna-Buchanan is the program director.

ademically accomplished students with a collaborative community that enhances students’ learning, creativity and discovery. The Honors Scholarship will be awarded to a student who exemplifies leadership and is eager to join the Manchester community,” said Associate Professor Tim McKenna-Buchanan, program director. He can be contacted at tpmckenna-buchanan@manchester.

edu or 260-982-5013.

Space in the Honors Program is limited, and the final deadline to apply is May 1. Those who apply after Nov. 30 will not be considered for the Honors or Trustees scholarships.






The Honors Program at Manchester is designed to provide unique learning opportunities that engage and challenge students who exhibit a high level of interest and initiative. Honors students demonstrate not only academic excellence in their majors but also the ability to approach complex questions from a variety of perspectives.

Students convert courses for honors credit and work with faculty mentors on personalized academic projects.

Manchester also recently launched a program to eliminate out-of-pocket tuition expenses for Indiana first-year students entering MU in fall 2021. This applies to all four years of their college career.





Anne Gregory is the assistant director of media relations in the Office of Strategic Communications at Manchester University.

5-Day Weather Summary

 <p>Wednesday Sunny 67 / 47</p>	 <p>Thursday Mostly Cloudy 65 / 43</p>	 <p>Friday Sunny 67 / 44</p>	 <p>Saturday Sunny 69 / 52</p>	 <p>Sunday Partly Cloudy 72 / 55</p>
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Sun and Moon

Today's sunset 5:37 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 7:16 a.m.

 <p>Last 11/8</p>	 <p>New 11/15</p>	 <p>First 11/21</p>	 <p>Full 11/30</p>
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Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see sunny skies, high temperature of 67°, humidity of 52%. South wind 9 to 14 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight, overnight low of 47°. South wind 8 to 13 mph. Thursday, skies will be mostly cloudy, high temperature of 65°, humidity of 58%. South southwest wind 6 to 11 mph.

VOTING

From page A1

how they work.

Cornett said that as of just after noon they had 440 voters.

“Obviously, with early voting, a lot of people came out and voted, so the numbers are probably going to be lower today, but that’s still quite a bit of people,” said Cornett.

“We’ve only been open for six and a half hours. We’ve got another about five to go. We’re expecting more people, especially around 5 p.m. when people start getting out of work, probably around 4:30 or 5 and when schools start letting out. But, it’s been pretty steady today. We had a big rush this morning of people lined up.”

Town Life Center

Ted Straiger, inspector, said the Town Life Center located in North Manchester had 640 voters on Saturday.

“Outstanding,” he said.

Straiger said the week before that they had over 400.

“We had no idea what to expect today. We have eight machines, expecting a large crowd,” he said.

Straiger said they had 80 voters in the first hour and a total of 243 as of noon. He said he attributed the relatively low numbers at that location Tuesday to a combination of early voting, absentee voting and others going to Wabash.

He said they were moving people through smoothly. He said they had six machines and four clerks Saturday. But, on Tuesday, they had six clerks and eight machines.

“We could have used this Saturday, but how do you know?” he said. “It’s nice to see a lot of people out voting.”

Straiger said they had a fan blowing air out the back door to provide ventilation and Plexiglas shields in front of each table where workers with masks were seated. He said most voters had been understanding about their requests to wear masks.

“We just had a few people that we had to approach. And of those few, many of those wore masks as we requested. You always had a few that weren’t going to wear it. OK, fine. We were not going to make a big issue out of it,” he said.

Pleasant Township Fire Department

Outside the Pleasant Township Fire Department

building in Laketon, brothers Raymond and Brandon Sharp stopped for a moment after casting their ballots. They both said they voted for Republican President Donald Trump.

“(Democratic candidate Vice President) Joe Biden was talking about cutting our defense budget, and I think that’s a bad idea right now especially with what’s going on with China,” said Brandon Sharp.

Raymond Sharp said he had “multiple reasons” for his vote.

“I’ve always been a Republican. And I simply know the fact of who is lying and who is not,” he said.

Raymond Sharp said he had split his vote between president and governor, though. He said he voted for Libertarian Donald Rainwater over incumbent Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb because of “face masks, the whole shut-down of everything.”

“He totally went against the conservative platform. So, he don’t deserve my vote. And if he loses to a Democrat because too many people voted for Rainwater, that’s his problem,” he said.

Brandon Sharp said it was his first time voting, so he just went straight Republican for every race.

“I don’t really pay attention to too much stuff, but when countries are acting like how China does, I pay attention to that,” he said.

Inside, Barbara Amiss, inspector, said they had 300 plus voters so far as of early afternoon.

“In the morning it was very steady,” she said. “This is the most we’ve been down.”

Amiss said they had no problems with the machines thus far.

“Nothing we can’t handle,” she said.

Lagro Town Hall

Braden See, inspector, said they had “pretty good” turnout at the Lagro Town Hall location, with over 300 voters coming by just after noon.

“It’s a little more than expected,” he said.

See said this building was chosen because it allowed for voters and workers to space out properly for safety.

“This year with the COVID a lot of places weren’t big enough to have the social distancing,” he said.

Outside, Tiffany Clupper was making her way to the voting booth. She said she didn’t care to say who she voted for, but had made a point of doing so the last few years.

Heartland REMC

Outside the Heartland REMC building, Billy Hawkins was standing behind a truck holding a wheelchair open. He said he was about to go inside and vote, but he was waiting on a friend who required the wheelchair.

Hawkins said he was going to vote for Trump once again because he liked what he had done so far.

“Bringing the economy back where it belongs,” he said, of his reasoning. “I grew up in the ’50s and ’60s. In the ’90s I started watching our jobs go out of this country. I felt sorry for a lot of people. Now they’re coming back. And I appreciate that.”

Hawkins said for the governor’s race, he hadn’t made up his mind.

“I’m leaning toward Rainwater. He’s for the veterans. He’s for the state. I honestly didn’t like the way the governor handled the situation with the masks. I think it was a crime to shut down the small businesses and allow the places like Wal-Mart to stay open. A lot of small businesses went under and I think it’s wrong,” he said.

Inside, Deb Dale, inspector, said it had been quite busy in the morning but had smoothed out by the afternoon. Dale said they had over 500 voters there by early afternoon.

Unlike many of the other voters and workers, Dale was not wearing a mask.

“I already had COVID and I just choose not to,” said Dale.

First United Methodist Church

Outside the First United Methodist Church, Mary Willcox said she had just finished voting for the first time, though she said she would rather keep who she cast her ballot for a secret.

And why did she decide to vote?


“Just because everybody keeps telling me to,” she said.

Inside, Cheryl Maggart, inspector, said it had been “very steady” with over 50 people in line when they first opened at 6 a.m. Maggart said they had eight machines and three poll books.

“We’ve been able to move people through very fast,” she said.

Maggart said by mid-afternoon they had 960, 970, were “creeping up on 1,000 voters.”

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplainedealer.com.



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Obituaries

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A step back from the brink

‘Blessed is the righteous judge.’ Someone had painted this on the side of a building in lower Manhattan. It wasn’t the first of my encounters with memorials to Ruth Bader

Kathryn Lopez



Barrett for succeeding the late Supreme Court justice on the court. My surprise about the Girl Scouts was that anyone there at this point would even think to acknowledge Barrett. I’ve been writing for 20 years about the politics that have crept into the Girl Scouts organization, so I can’t say I was surprised. But the convergence, just before the election, kind of stung.

For more than a decade now, some of us have been raising an alarm about religious freedom. If one’s religious principles clash with what’s deemed acceptable by the government, those principles are viewed with hostility.

The morning after this Election Day, in a case argued by the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, Catholic Social Services in Philadelphia is fighting for foster children. The Philadelphia city government decided it was going to stop working with the Catholic agency on account of church views on homosexuality. Mind you, there was no actual complaint about anyone being refused help. What’s at stake here is freedom itself. There should be more options for foster parents, not less – for the sake of these children who don’t have a lot of time to have their lives literally saved. Adults have to quit playing politics with their lives or we are going to have a lot to answer for.

I am confident that most people don’t realize what’s going on here. I’m sure when they cast a vote for Joe Biden because he doesn’t seem like the bully Trump is, they have no idea this is what they are voting for – a continuing narrowing of freedom. But vice presidential candidate Sen. Kamala Harris thinks membership in the Knights of Columbus makes a

man unqualified to be a judge. Just days before the election, the founder of that fraternal order is being beautified – a big step on the road to becoming a canonized saint.

And maybe we could consider that, after Election Day, just because we have differences of opinion doesn’t mean that we have to exile each other from polite society. I don’t want to be canceled, and I doubt you do either. So, let’s get back to debates, discussions and striving to find some kind of common ground.

Whatever your opinion of abortion, here’s something we can come together on: There are children living in the city of Philadelphia and all around the country who need homes. Let’s get them safe and secure in loving families. One of the common experiences of this traumatic year has been the violence that COVID-19 did to the routines that helped us get through days and move forward. How much worse was it for a child without a permanent family?

The recent terrorist attack in the Catholic Church in Nice, France, shows us what hatred of the other can do, what hatred of Christianity looks like. And then there’s the rising tide of anti-Semitism. Whatever happened to “never again”? This isn’t a Holocaust, but the same kind of evil that lead to it is creeping in again. That is unacceptable. That is actually intolerable. We need a rigorous defense of religious freedom – yours and mine.

So, by all means make your RBG shrine, but remember that she was good friends with the late Justice Antonin Scalia – a staunch conservative, to say the least. There is room for different views in America. That’s what pluralism is all about. We need to remember that in the social media-charged atmosphere of blame-laying and name-calling.

Whoever wins on Election Day, let’s go forth talking, not canceling.

Kathryn Jean Lopez is senior fellow at the National Review Institute, editor-at-large of National Review magazine and author of the new book “A Year With the Mystics: Visionary Wisdom for Daily Living.” She is also chair of Cardinal Dolan’s pro-life commission in New York. She can be contacted at klopez@nationalreview.com.

William ‘Denny’ D. Cavins

July 17, 1954 – Oct 29, 2020

William “Denny” D. Cavins, Sr. 66, of Wabash, Indiana, died at 10:42 am, Thursday, October 29, 2020 at his home. He was born July 17, 1954 in Wabash, to Jess Cavins and Anna (Osborne) Shepherd.

Denny was a 1972 graduate of New Lexington High School in New Lexington, Ohio. He married Judy G. Burger in Wabash on February 25, 1984. Denny was a member of the Moose Lodge and the Eagles Lodge, both of Wabash. He enjoyed watching television, playing on the computer, collecting skulls, and tinkering around.

He is survived by his wife, Judy G. Cavins of Wabash, five children, William “Denver” Cavins, Jr. of Culver, Indiana, Michael Cavins of Logansport, Indiana, Deanna (Rick) Fox of Marion, Indiana, Christopher Key of Huntsville, Alabama and



Randy (Cyndi) Fox-Key of Logansport, 20 grandchildren, several great grandchildren, step brothers and sisters, Melvin Norris and Carla (Kenny) Black, both of Huntington, Jess (Mary) Norris and Barbie Butler, both of Wabash, Brandy Berryman and Josh Cavins, both of Huntington. He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Roger Cavins, step brother, Floyd Noland, and grandchildren, Denny J. Key, and Christian Key.

Funeral services will be 11:00 am, Monday, November 2, 2020, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash. Burial will be in Friends Cemetery, Wabash. Friends may call 9:30-11:00 am Monday, at the funeral home.

The memorial guest book for Denny may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

William ‘Bill’ Morris

March 12, 1952 – Oct 29, 2020

William “Bill” Morris, 68, North Manchester, passed away October 29, 2020. Bill was born on March 12, 1952 to Victor and Vivian (Tanneruether) Morris.

Bill Morris is survived by his wife, Debra Morris; sons, Jeff Morris and Tyler (Stacey) Morris; daughters, Wendy Schoettmer, Ethel (Steve) Baker, Nikki Morris, Keisha (Chuck) Marley, Janie

Morris, and Dawn (Doug) Macklin; sister, Ann Gibbs; twelve grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Calling November 3, 2020 from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. at McKee Mortuary, 1401 State Road 114 West, North Manchester. Funeral services will begin at the conclusion of calling.

Arrangements are entrusted to McKee Mortuary.

Kenneth Jerry ‘Kenny’ Earhart

Jan 10, 1942 – Oct 31, 2020

Kenneth Jerry “Kenny” Earhart, 78, of Wabash, Indiana, died at 6:11 pm, Saturday, October 31, 2020 at Parkview Randallia Hospital in Fort Wayne. He was born January 10, 1942 in Wabash, to Kenneth Earl Earhart and Dorothy (Burnsworth) Lundeen.

Kenny was a 1960 graduate of Lagro High School and a US Army veteran. He retired from Diehl Machines in Wabash, in 2007, after 38 years. He was a longtime member of the Grace Fellowship Church, and enjoyed watching IU Basketball, the Indiana Pacers, and John Wayne westerns on television.

He is survived by three daughters, Jennifer (John) Ritenour of McCordsville, Indiana, Lisa Earhart of Fishers, Indiana, and Jessica Earhart of Wabash, sis-



ter, Ruth Hunt and brother, Bob (Sherry) Earhart, both of Wabash, step sister, Charlene Niccum of Bryan, Ohio, and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, his step brother, Jerry Lundeen, and his brother-in-law Johnny Hunt.

Funeral services will be 10:30 am, Thursday, November 5, 2020, at Grace Fellowship Church, 4652 S 100 W, Wabash IN 46992, with Rev. Terry Martin officiating. Burial will be in Center Grove Cemetery, Lincolnville, Indiana. Friends may call 4-7 pm Wednesday, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash.

Preferred memorial is Grace Fellowship Church.

The memorial guest book for Kenny may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Manchester joins ‘The Year We Left Home’ author for a statewide virtual event

It is open to the public, as is MU’s related book club

By ANNE GREGORY

Jean Thompson, author of “The Year We Left Home,” will host an online, statewide discussion Tuesday, Nov. 10,

and Manchester University is including it in its Values, Ideas and the Arts (VIA) series.

Students take part in VIA events to earn academic credit.

The hour-long Indiana Humanities event begins at 7 p.m. It is open to the public, as is MU’s related book club. Thompson’s novel was

chosen by Indiana Humanities as 2020 One State/One Story selection. The Year We Left Home offers a multi-generational look at living in the Midwest during the final decades of the 20th century. Beginning in Iowa in 1973, the novel follows the Erickson family through the many changes affecting

American life.

The bestselling-author and National Book Award-finalist will talk about the book, her career as a writer, and the stories we tell about the Midwest.

Barb Shoup, founding director of the Indiana Writers Center, will moderate.

The free program will

be online via Zoom. Register to attend at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/inconversation-with-jean-thompson-registration-116010988991>

A Manchester book club will focus on The Year We Left Home. Those interested may contact alvanvlerah@manchester.edu to learn more.

The book discussions will bring together members of the University and North Manchester communities and will meet in the spring. Members of the book club will receive a free copy of the book.

Anne Gregory is the assistant director of media relations in the Office of Strategic Communications at Manchester University.

Parkview Wabash recognized for excellence in infant and maternal health

The announcement was made at the inaugural INspire Hospital of Distinction recognition program

STAFF REPORT

Parkview Wabash Hospital was recognized on Wednesday by the Indiana Hospital Association (IHA) – in partnership with Governor Eric J. Holcomb and State Health

Commissioner Kris Box, MD, FACOG – for its commitment to infant and maternal health, according to Leslie Megison, media and community relations specialist for Parkview Huntington Hospital.

The announcement was

made at the inaugural INspire Hospital of Distinction recognition program, held as a virtual event.

INspire, funded by the Indiana Department of Health’s Safety PIN grant, was developed to implement the delivery of best-practice care for Hoosier moms and babies and recognize hospitals for excellence in addressing key drivers

of infant and maternal health.

Parkview Wabash earned a Category of Excellence award, created to recognize hospitals based on the implementation of best practices in one, two or three of five key areas: infant safe sleep, breastfeeding, tobacco prevention and cessation, perinatal substance use and obstetric hemorrhage.

Also receiving the Catego-

ry of Excellence award was Parkview LaGrange Hospital. Other Parkview hospitals – Parkview DeKalb, Parkview Randallia, Parkview Noble, Parkview Whitley and Parkview Regional Medical Center – received the program’s other recognition, the INspire Hospital of Distinction award, which recognizes hospitals meeting the criteria

in four or five of the key areas.

Box noted that among many successes, Indiana has seen a nearly 30 percent drop in Indiana’s Black infant mortality rate in just two years.

Indiana Hospital Association serves as the professional trade association for more than 170 acute care, critical access, behavioral health, and other specialized hospitals in Indiana.



Betty May (Shumaker) Bolsover

April 1, 1926 – Nov 1, 2020

Betty May (Shumaker) Bolsover, 94, of Wabash, Indiana, died at 11:05 pm, Sunday, November 1, 2020 at Miller’s Merry Manor East in Wabash. She was born April 1, 1926 in Marion, Indiana, to John Shumaker and Lola (Warner) Shumaker Smith.

Betty was a 1944 graduate of Laketon High School. She married Wilbur Ray on June 1, 1945; he died January 14, 2000. She was an inspector at Warner Corporation in North Manchester 27 years, retiring in 1988. Betty was a member of Christian Heritage Church, Wabash. She still lived on her own at Senior Town until entering the hospital on October 5, 2020. She enjoyed going to the Senior Center each day it was open and attending services at her church. Betty always enjoyed her “days out” with her daughter and making pies for people.

She is survived by her daughter, Donna (Roger) Harman of Wabash, five grandchildren, Dedra (Jason) Stockberger of Kokomo, Indiana, Stephen Henwood, Karri Henwood, and Kathy Henwood, all of North Webster, Indiana, and Bobbi Jo Worboy of Syracuse, Indiana, 11 great grandchildren, several great great grandchildren, sister, Georgia

Metzger of Wabash, and her sister-in-law, Jean Shumaker of Columbia City, Indiana. She was also preceded in death by her parents, daughter, Judy Henwood, and three brothers, Bob, Dick, and Bill Shumaker.

Funeral services will be 11:00 am on Friday, November 6, 2020, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with Pastors Tim Prater and Bruce Hostetler officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash. Friends may call 9:30-11:00 am Friday, at the funeral home.

Preferred memorial is Christian Heritage Church Building Fund.

The memorial guest book for Betty may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Mary Elizabeth (Powell) Miller

March 18, 1928 – Oct 30, 2020

Mary Elizabeth (Powell) Miller, 92, of Anderson, died October 30, 2020 at Waters Edge Village in Muncie. She was born in Perry Township, Miami County on March 18, 1928, the daughter of Daniel and Faye (Geiger) Powell. She was married to Henry Miller on October 20, 1951. She was primarily a homemaker, but had also done janitorial work for the area school systems. She attended East Side Church of God.

Mary is survived by her four children; Victoria Moyer of Wabash, Catherine (Jay) Rogers of Peru, Kevin (Rita) Miller of Wabash, and William (Kristina) Miller of Anderson; 6 grandchildren; Joshua (Amanda) Miller, Christie (Greg) Woodruff, Kari Miller, Shannon (Scott) Gress, Aaron Miller,



Cory Miller; 11 great grandchildren; two sisters, Nellie Scott of Lake Charles, LA and Carolyn Richards of Peru; several nieces and nephews, and dear friend Debbie Taylor.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Henry Miller, two brothers, Dwane and John Powell; sister, Gladys Shambarger, and sons, Michael, Richard, and Thomas Miller

Private Graveside services will be held on Wednesday, November 4th at Bronnenberg Cemetery in Chesterfield with Dr. Kerry Robinson officiating. Friends may visit with the family from 10:30-12:30 Wednesday at Rozelle Johnson Funeral Service.

Memorial contributions may be given to East Side Church of God.

Post online condolences at www.rozelle-johnson.com.

Vernon Lee Leland

Funeral Services for Vernon Lee Leland, 88, of Wabash, were 10:30 am, Tuesday, November 3, 2020 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral

Service, Wabash.

Tyler Leland officiated and Susan Vanlandingham was the musician. Memories shared by family and friends.

Dale Stouffer joins membership of American Angus Association

Group has more than 25,000 active adult and junior members

STAFF REPORT

Dale Stouffer, of Wabash, is a new member of the American Angus Association, according to Mark McCully, CEO of the national breed organization headquartered in Saint Joseph, Missouri. The American Angus Association, with more than 25,000 active adult and junior members, is the largest beef breed association in the world. Its computerized records include detailed information on

over 19 million registered Angus. “The Association records ancestral information and keeps production records and genomic data on individual animals to develop industry-leading selection tools for its members,” said McCully. “The programs and services of the Association and its entities – Angus Genetics, Angus Media, Certified Angus Beef LLC and the Angus Foundation – help members advance the beef cattle business by selecting the best animals for their herds and marketing quality genetics for the beef cattle industry and quality beef for consumers.” For more information, visit www.angus.org.

Pandemic worsens schools’ substitute teacher woes

TERRE HAUTE (AP) — Indiana school districts’ long-running struggles to find substitute teachers have become more difficult as fears about the coronavirus keep some veteran substitutes away, forcing school staff to fill in more often for absent teachers. Several states have seen surges in educators filing for retirement or taking leaves of absence amid the pandemic, straining staff in areas that already faced teacher shortages before the virus created an education crisis. In Indiana, some districts report that substitute teachers are staying away, wary of returning to the classroom at a time when COVID-19 cases are spiking across the state and nation. Mike Sullivan began substituting for western Indiana’s

Vigo County School Corp. in March 2019 after retiring from his job in advertising sales. He found substituting at the middle school level the “perfect” part-time job to fit his circumstances. But on the recommendation of his doctor, he is not substituting this year because he is at higher risk for COVID-19. “I would catch it easier than most people would and I would have a harder time surviving,” he said, adding that he misses substitute teaching. The increased difficulty of finding substitutes is forcing districts to more frequently shift their staffing, with teachers who provide instruction in specialized classes instead being drafted to fill in for absent teachers.

DEATHS

From page A1

Drive-thru testing available

Due to climbing local COVID-19 cases, Long said that the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) and the city of Wabash have opened a free drive-thru clinic for COVID-19 testing. The clinic will be held from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. through Saturday, Nov. 7 at 1360 Manchester Ave. Testing will be available to all members of the public regardless of symptoms. Children as young as 2 years of age can be tested with parental consent. Indiana residents will not be charged for testing. Those who have private health insurance should bring that information with them. Long said the turnaround on these tests was between three and five days, but some are coming back within 48 to 72 hours.

School figures

The ISDH’s latest school dashboard results are as of 11:59 p.m. Friday, Oct. 30 and were updated Monday, Nov. 2. The dashboard is updated weekly at midnight Mondays. Statewide, 469 schools reported no cases, 1,444 reported one or more case and 453 have not reported. During the latest update, Wabash County schools with one or more confirmed cases included: ■ Manchester Jr./Sr. High School (MHS) reported six total student positive cases and fewer than five total staff positive cases. ■ Manchester Elementary School (MES) reported fewer than five total student positive cases. ■ Manchester Intermediate Schools (MIS) reported fewer than five total student positive cases. ■ Metro North Elementary School reported fewer than five total student positive cases. ■ Sharp Creek Elementary School reported fewer than five total staff positive cases. ■ Northfield Jr./Sr. High School (NHS) reported fewer than five each new student positive cases and total student positive cases. ■ Southwood Jr./Sr. High School (SHS) reported fewer than five each new student positive cases and total stu-

dent positive cases. ■ Wabash High School (WHS) reported fewer than five each new student positive cases and total student positive cases. On the Manchester Community Schools’ (MCS) own dashboard the information is updated once contact tracing is complete and all close contacts have been notified. MCS defines close contact is when an individual is within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes of someone with confirmed COVID-19. “The Wabash County Health Department determined close contacts in conjunction with school personnel and advised us who to quarantine,” stated MCS. The individually reported MCS cases include: ■ Sept. 28: One case each at MES and MHS, with five people quarantined. ■ Oct. 10: One case at MHS, with one person quarantined. ■ Oct. 14: One case at MHS, with two people quarantined. ■ Oct. 15: One case at MES, with five people quarantined. And one case at MHS, with two people quarantined. ■ Oct. 16: One case at MHS, with 34 people quarantined. ■ Oct. 20: One case at MHS, with no additional people quarantined. ■ Oct. 21: One case at MIS, with one person quarantined. ■ Oct. 28: One case at MHS, with no additional people quarantined. ■ Nov. 2: One case at MHS, with two people quarantined. ■ Nov. 3: Two cases at MHS, with two people quarantined. Schools of higher learning are not listed on the ISDH schools dashboard. However, Manchester University maintains its own, separate dashboard. As of Tuesday, Oct. 27, the school had conducted 117 tests during the past seven days, with 99.1 percent of those being negative and .9 percent being positive. In total, there had been 1,685 tests performed, with 98.5 percent of those being negative, and 1.5 percent being positive. Also, there had been 10 self-reported cases on the North Manchester campus, and three on the Fort Wayne campus. During the latest ISDH update, Wabash County schools with no reported cases in-

cluded: ■ O.J. Neighbours Elementary School ■ Wabash Middle School ■ Saint Bernard Elementary School ■ White’s Jr./Sr. High School ■ Southwood Elementary School Emmanuel Christian School has not yet responded to a request for comment. This story will be updated as more information becomes available.

Local figures

On Saturday, the ISDH reported 23 new local positive COVID-19 cases, bringing Wabash County’s total to 548, with 6,633 tests. The local seven-day positivity rating for all tests was 6.4 percent. The local seven-day positivity rating for unique individuals was 10.9 percent. On Sunday, the ISDH reported 15 new local positive COVID-19 cases, bringing Wabash County’s total to 563, with 6,709 tests. The local seven-day positivity rating for all tests was 6.7 percent. The local seven-day positivity rating for unique individuals was 13.1 percent. On Monday, the ISDH reported 40 new local positive COVID-19 cases, bringing Wabash County’s total to 603, with 6,855 tests. The local seven-day positivity rating for all tests was 8.1 percent. The local seven-day positivity rating for unique individuals was 16.6 percent. On Tuesday, the ISDH reported 27 new local positive COVID-19 cases, bringing Wabash County’s total to 630, with 6,993 tests. The local seven-day positivity rating for all tests was 8.6 percent. The local seven-day positivity rating for unique individuals was 16.7 percent. As of Tuesday, the ISDH reported the following Wabash County demographics for positive cases by age group: ■ Ages 0 to 19: 14.3 percent ■ Ages 20 to 29: 15.2 percent ■ Ages 30 to 39: 12.5 percent ■ Ages 40 to 49: 13 percent ■ Ages 50 to 59: 11.3 percent ■ Ages 60 to 69: 13.3 percent ■ Ages 70 to 79: 11 percent ■ Ages 80 and above: 9.4 percent The ISDH reported the following gender breakdowns for Wabash County positive cases:

■ Female: 59.4 percent ■ Male: 40 percent ■ Unknown: .6 percent The ISDH reported the following racial breakdowns for Wabash County positive cases: ■ White: 80.3 percent ■ Other race: 8.1 percent ■ Black or African American: 1 percent ■ Asian: .3 percent ■ Unknown: 10.3 percent The ISDH reported the following ethnic breakdowns for Wabash County positive cases: ■ Not Hispanic or Latino: 69 percent ■ Hispanic or Latino: 3 percent ■ Unknown: 27.9 percent

Statewide figures

On Tuesday, the ISDH announced that 2,951 additional Hoosiers have been diagnosed with COVID-19 through testing at state and private laboratories. That brings to 188,066 the number of Indiana residents now known to have had the novel coronavirus following corrections to the previous day’s dashboard. A total of 4,199 Hoosiers are confirmed to have died from COVID-19, an increase of 50 from the previous day. Another 240 probable deaths have been reported based on clinical diagnoses in patients for whom no positive test is on record. Deaths are reported based on when data are received by the state and occurred over multiple days. To date, 1,733,575 unique individuals have been tested in Indiana, up from 1,722,842 on Monday. A total of 2,995,343 tests, including repeat tests for unique individuals, have been reported to the state Department of Health since Feb. 26. Besides the Wabash testing site, the ISDH will offer free drive-thru testing sites in the following locations from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. through Saturday: ■ Lake County Health Department, 2900 W. 93rd Ave., Crown Point. ■ Morgan County Fairgrounds, 1749 Hospital Drive, Martinsville. ■ White Horse Christian Center, 1780 Cumberland Ave., West Lafayette. To find other testing sites around the state, visit www.coronavirus.in.gov and click on the COVID-19 testing information link. *Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.*

PULSE

From page A1

-action-month/c299182 or <https://www.givepulse.com/group/203410>.

WPD participating in Operation Belt Up

The Wabash Police Department (WPD) is participating in Operation Belt Up through Thursday, Nov. 5. Indiana law requires everyone in the vehicle to wear a seat belt. Children under eight years of age are required to be in a federally-approved child or booster seat.

Parkview Wabash hosts Check-Up Day for people who need lab tests

Parkview Wabash Hospital will host a Check-Up Day to enable people who need common lab tests to obtain them safely at a reduced cost. Center for Healthy Living team members will be available from 7:30 to 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 7 in the first-floor Classrooms A, B and C at Parkview Wabash, 10 John Kissinger Drive. To minimize contact time and create the safest possible environment, participants must pre-register by phone. Walk-ins cannot be accepted for this event. Appointment times are limited. Call 260-266-6500 or 844-835-0003 to pre-register. Callers should leave a message including their name and phone number. Center for Healthy Living office hours are from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 260-266-6500 or 844-835-0003.

Frances Slocum Chapter of the Indiana DAR to meet

The Wabash County Frances Slocum Chapter of the Indiana Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10, at the Grandstaff Hentgen Activity Room, 1241 Manchester Ave. The program will be given by retired U.S. Army Veteran, Cold War 1979-86, Lisa Sutter. Prospective members and guests are always welcome to attend. DAR membership is open to any woman 18 years of age, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution. Those having questions about their family history lineage information may visit www.dar.org or call Linda Thompson at 260-563-4661 or Barbara Amiss at 260-982-4376.

Focus on the Future Community Workshops planned

A team of elected and appointed officials, civic leaders and organizations is launching an innovative, comprehensive planning process for the five incorporated communities of Wabash County. The first community involvement opportunity – Focus on the Future Community Workshops – will take place during the week of Nov. 9 with in-person meetings planned in each of the county’s incorporated cities and towns. This round of engagement will also include virtual events and special stakeholder sessions. Registration is not required but appreciated for all events. Virtual workshops include: ■ 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 13 ■ 4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 16 In-person events include: ■ 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 9 at Roann Community Center, 105 N. Chippewa St., Roann ■ 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10, Lago Town Hall, 230 Buchanan St., Lago ■ 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10, La Fontaine Community Building, 105 W Branson St., La Fontaine ■ 6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11, Honeywell Center, Legacy Center, 275 W. Market St. ■ 6:30, 7:30 and 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12 at the Manchester Community Schools Admin Building, 404 W 9th St., North Manchester For more information, visit www.ImagineOne85.org.

Indiana 105 bridge at Salamonie Lake closed

Salamonie Lost Bridge West and East state recre-

ation areas are accessible only from the south. To access Indiana 105 on the north side of the bridge, from the south of the bridge heading north on Indiana 105, the official detour will be Indiana 124 to Indiana 9 to Highway 24. The entire bridge deck will be removed and replaced. The bridge, and road, is scheduled to re-open Sunday, Nov. 15.

Hawkins Farms kicks off Pizza Fridays benefiting HOPE CSA

Hawkins Family Farm is hosting “Tailgating on the Farm” from 5 to 7 p.m. Fridays at 10373 N. 300 East, North Manchester, diners will be able to order online or by phone their all-natural, locally-sourced artisan pizzas baked in an outdoor, wood-fired brick oven. Standard pizzas range from \$10 to \$20, payable by credit card or Apple Pay. All profits from Fridays on the Farm benefit HOPE CSA (Hands-On Pastoral Education using Clergy Sustaining Agriculture). For more information, visit www.hawkinsfamilyfarm.com or www.hopecsa.org.

Laketon American Legion open

The Laketon American Legion is open from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays serving breakfast and lunch. On Saturdays, only breakfast will be served from 6 to 11 a.m. On Sundays, they are closed.

DivorceCare begins weekly meetings again

DivorceCare, a 13-week DVD series sponsored by Wabash Friends Counseling Center, “features some of the nation’s foremost Christian experts on topics concerning divorce and recovery.” The support group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in the Conference Room in the Wabash Friends Counseling Center, 3563 S. State Road 13. Wearing a mask is required when entering. Leader Janet Quillen and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St. on State Road 15. For more information, call Quillen at 260-571-5235, or call 260-563-8453 or 877-350-1658; email office@wabashfriends.org; or visit www.divorcecare.org.

Wabash Rotary Club announces ‘No Outing Golf Outing’

Wabash Rotary Club has continued its long tradition of supporting the Wabash County United Fund campaign. And although this year’s golf outing was canceled, Wabash Rotary will still be supporting Wabash County United Fund (WCUF). Community members can participate in one of two ways. They may donate any amount to the Wabash Rotary Club or they can sponsor one of three levels toward the “No Outing Golf Outing.” All donations or sponsorships may be payable to the Wabash Rotary Club by mail at P.O. Box 159, Wabash, IN 46992. For more information, call Dr. Chris Kuhn at 260-563-8050 (option 7) or email at kuhnc@ms-dwc.k12.in.us; pr call Steve Johnson at 260-563-6726 or email at steve.johnson@wcuunitedfund.org.

Alcoholics Anonymous changes meeting locations due to COVID-19

Due to COVID-19, the local Alcoholics Anonymous groups are changing meeting locations. Al-Anon meets from 7 to 8 p.m. Sundays at 401 N. Sycamore St., North Manchester and from 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays at Christ United Methodist Church, 477 N. Wabash St. (Please use south parking lot entrance.) *Editor’s note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.*

DRUGS

From page A1

Before conducting the search warrant Marion Police Department officers made a traffic stop on Austin Cundiff, 23, of Logansport. Cundiff was found to have currency, marijuana, oxycodone and other prescription medications. Baker said the search of the residence in Marion yielded 43 grams of methamphetamine, 361 grams of marijuana, Xanax, methadone, oxycodone and currency. Johnny and Christina Rowe were both arrested after the search on charges of dealing methamphetamine and possession of a controlled substance. Cundiff was arrested on charges of possession of

narcotics with intent to deliver and possession of a controlled substance. The investigation then led officers to the 300 block of West Broadway Street in Logansport, where another search warrant was executed. Baker said during that search, more illegal narcotics and currency were located. As the investigation continued, deputies were able to secure three more search warrants that were all served in the early morning hours of Oct. 28. The three search warrants were all located in Wabash. At approximately 2:08 a.m., the first search warrant was executed in the 900 block of Lafontaine Avenue. Arrested at that address were Nicholas Burchett, 34, of Wabash, on charges of possession of methamphet-

amine, unlawful possession of a syringe, possession of marijuana, possession of paraphernalia and maintaining a common nuisance; Amanda Cantrell, 28, of Wabash, on charges of possession of a narcotic drug, heroin, and unlawful possession of a syringe; and Jamie Shelton, 24, of Lago, for visiting a common nuisance. The second search warrant was executed at 3:28 a.m. in the 1100 block of Pike Street. Arrested at that address were Devin Bessette, 33, of Wabash, on charges of dealing methamphetamine, possession of a narcotic, heroin, and unlawful possession of a syringe; and Darian Boggs, 25, of Wabash, with an unrelated arrest warrant. Baker said the third search warrant led the deputies back to the Knights Inn Wa-

bash, this time to Room 131. During that search, syringes and methamphetamine were located. Charges for the occupants of the room will be forwarded to the Wabash County Prosecutor’s Office for review. The Wabash County Sheriff’s Department was assisted in the investigation by the Wabash Police Department, Wabash Drug Task Force, Wabash Fire Department, Marion Police Department, Marion JEAN Drug Task Force and Cass County Drug Task Force. “A charge is merely an accusation,” said Baker. “The defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.” *Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.*

Southwood’s Sweet gets 30th at state XC meet

That was five places better than his 2019 outing at the State Finals

By ROY CHURCH

Southwood senior Braden Sweet finished 30th at the 2020 IHSAA State Finals at the LaVern Gibson Championship Cross Country Course here Saturday afternoon. That was five places better than his 2019 outing at the State Finals. His time was 16:13.3 and tied two others at that time, but Austin Hall of Columbia City was awarded 29th place by the officials and Camden Marshall of Corydon Central got 31st. Sweet’s time was slower than his New Haven Semi-State time of 16:08.4, where he finished 16th. His school-record time of 15:48.1 was set when he won the Marion Regional title. But at this point in the season, time is not as important as where you finish. Was he happy with his performance? “Definitely. For sure,” he replied. “It was even better than I anticipated. “Last year we were packed in pretty tight. This year it was a lot easier

to move around,” Sweet said. His coach from sixth grade through Saturday, Tonya Boone, was also happy. “I am so pleased for him,” she said. “He gave it everything he had. It was the culmination of a lot of hard work. “I think last year’s trip to state really made a difference,” she added. “He knew what to expect. And when he walked off the course he had no regrets.” Both Boone and Sweet said officials had to “go to the cameras” to sort out the three runners crossing the line in 16:13.3. Earlier at the finish line, five runners finished within 2/100th of a second of each other. Angola’s Izaiah Steury, a junior who won the New Haven Semi-State one week earlier at Huntington University, won the state individual championship with a time of 15:23.7, two seconds faster than his winning time a week earlier. His season-best was 15:20. As reported by the Indianapolis Star, Steury arrived in Indiana seven years ago from Ethiopia. He did not speak English and had never been a runner. Undefeated this season, he entered the race as the favorite. No.1-ranked Columbus North, whose assistant coach is Northfield graduate Andy Keffaber (*95),

closed out a highly-successful campaign by winning with 63 points. No. 3 Carmel was second (112 points) and No.2 Brebeuf Jesuit was third with 126 points. Columbus North put its five scorers in the top 19 finishers and all seven of its runners ahead of Carmel’s top five. Columbus North was the winner of its own regional and Brown County Semi-State, while Carmel won the Shelbyville Semi-State. “It was pretty satisfying,” Keffaber said. While Columbus North has won “quite a few” state championships (2002, 2003, 2009, 2010, 2011), this was its best outing since he showed up four years ago. The closest he had been to a state title was a third-place finish while running at Northfield. The Bull Dogs were sixth in 2018 and fourth last year. “Our guys ran as well as they could,” Keffaber said. “It was our best race of the year. They all showed up with their best on the same day. It was pretty dominating.” No. 4-ranked Hamilton Southeastern, winner of the New Haven Semi-State, finished sixth at the state meet and was edged by Fishers, which was third at New Haven. Fort Wayne Concordia, the defending state champion, was second at semi-state

and eighth at state. Carroll (Fort Wayne) was fourth at semi-state and 20th at state; Goshen was fifth at semi-state and 13th at state; and Penn was sixth at semi-state and 18th at state. Wabash, Southwood and Northfield competed in the New Haven Semi-State. Manchester competed in the New Prairie Semi-State, which was won by Chesterton. The semi-state champs finished 17th at state, but were edged by Warsaw (in 16th), which won the North Manchester Sectional and Logansport Regional and was runner-up to Chesterton at semi-state. On the girls side Saturday, No.2-ranked Carmel took the team title over No.1-ranked Carroll (Fort Wayne), 50-77, and No.3 Columbus North came in third (168 points). Carroll had won the New Haven Semi-state crown, while Carmel won at Shelbyville and Columbus North won at Brown County. Junior Karina James of Lowell captured the individual title in 18:00.1 over Carroll senior Zoe Duffus in 18:02.2. Duffus had won the New Haven event in 17:52.8 a week earlier. James won the New Prairie Semi-State race in 18:08.4. Roy Church can be reached by email at sports@wabashplaindealer.com.

Manchester cross country tops round four of virtual racing series

Teams scheduled to have one final event the weekend of Nov. 6 through Nov. 8

By DILLON BENDER

The Manchester University men’s and women’s cross country teams turned in another pair of stellar performances last weekend. Competing in-person against Bluffton University and Transylvania University, the Spartans ran a 5k and a 1600m. However, all times from Sunday’s tri-meet were converted to a 3200-meter equivalent and compared virtually against other competing schools in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference. The Black and Gold’s performances propelled them to the top spot in the fourth round of the Virtual Racing Series. The Virtual Racing Series allows each HCAC institution to compile times on individual campuses, record times, then score the meet based on these virtual event times. Based on the results from the 3200-meter times, Manchester University topped the field in both fields last weekend. The men posted a team total of 44 points, beating out second-place Rose-Hulman by two points. The Fightin’ Engineers finished with 46 points. Third-place Franklin posted 80 points. Of the more than 70 runners, sophomore Enrique Salazar, from Plymouth, posted the top overall equivalent time this week, clocking in at 9:33.8. Freshman Connor Havens, from LaPorte, placed third overall with an equivalent time of 9:37.8. Both Thomas Richardson, from Ladoga and Southmont High School, and Lucas Fontanez, from Lowell, earned the top 10 placements over the weekend. Richardson placed



Provided photo

Of the more than 70 runners, sophomore Enrique Salazar, from Plymouth, posted the top overall equivalent time this week, clocking in at 9:33.8.



Provided photo

Kelsey Tyler, from Rochester, paced three top 10 placements for Manchester. Of the more than 50 runners, Tyler took home the top overall spot with an equivalent time of 11:28.3.

eighth with a time of 9:49.7, while Fontanez clocked in a time of 9:51.3. The women ended the weekend with 49 points, narrowly edging second-place Rose-Hulman, who finished with 52 points. The Transylvania Pioneers were a close third, finishing with 57.5 points. Kelsey Tyler, from Rochester,

paced three top 10 placements for Manchester. Of the more than 50 runners, Tyler took home the top overall spot with an equivalent time of 11:28.3. Lauren Smith, from Anderson and Lapel High School, earned a fourth-place finish, clocking in at 12:00.9. Fiona Frost, from Indianapolis and Lawrence Central

High School, clocked in an equivalent time of 12:13.9, good enough for sixth-place. Manchester University Cross Country is scheduled to have one final event this fall scheduled for the weekend of Nov. 6 through Nov. 8. Dillon Bender is the sports information director for Manchester University.

Wisconsin-Purdue game off amid Badgers’ virus outbreak

By STEVE MEGARGEE Associated Press

Wisconsin has canceled Saturday’s home game against Purdue, the second straight game the 10th-ranked Badgers have called off as COVID-19 cases within their team continue to rise. School officials announced Tuesday that three more players and two additional staffers have tested positive since Saturday, bringing the program’s total number of active cases to 27. That includes 15 players and 12 staffers. All team-related activities for Wisconsin remain paused indefinitely. “I’m concerned with the health and safety of the guys,” athletic director Barry Alvarez said. “No one wants to be on that field any more than I do. But I’m not going to lose track of priorities.”

This marks the second consecutive week that Wisconsin has canceled a game due to the virus outbreak. The Badgers had been scheduled to visit Nebraska on Oct. 31. Neither game will be rescheduled. “While we looked forward to our game this weekend against Wisconsin, we understand the Badgers’ decision to cancel based on medical advice and their need to control any additional transmission of the virus within their team and staff,” Purdue athletic director Mike Bobinski said in a statement. “The health, well-being and safety of all student-athletes, coaches and staff remains the top priority for the entire Big Ten and will continue to guide decision-making.” The Purdue-Wisconsin matchup becomes the 38th game involving a Football Bowl Subdivision team to get postponed or canceled as a result of the pandemic.

Wisconsin’s 27 active cases all have arisen since Oct. 24, the day after Wisconsin’s season-opening 45-7 victory over Illinois. Ten players and 11 staffers have tested positive over the last seven days. “It just didn’t feel as though we had our arms around it and had things controlled as I thought we needed,” Alvarez said. When Wisconsin canceled the Nebraska game last week, Alvarez said the school had reached the “orange/red” levels in the Big Ten protocols based on its rate of positive tests. The Big Ten says teams in that area must proceed with caution; among the steps is considering the viability of playing. Alvarez said Tuesday that Wisconsin still hasn’t reached the “red/red” threshold that forces a team to stop practices and competition for at least seven days. But he noted that “we’ve continued to have positive tests daily.”

The announcement of the Wisconsin-Nebraska cancellation followed reports that quarterback Graham Mertz had tested positive twice – which would require him to sit out at least 21 days under Big Ten protocols – and that backup quarterback Chase Wolf had tested positive at least once. The Big Ten’s schedule doesn’t give teams any off weeks, making it extremely difficult to reschedule canceled games. The second cancellation gives Wisconsin little room for error in its quest to reach a second straight conference championship game. The Big Ten requires teams to play at least six games to be eligible for the league championship game. If the average number of conference games played by all Big Ten teams is below six, programs must play no less than two fewer league games than that average to be considered.

SCOREBOARD

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

College Football Schedule									
Wednesday, Nov. 4									
W. Michigan	at	Akron	6 p.m.						
E. Michigan	at	Kent St.	6 p.m.						
Ohio	at	Cent. Michigan	7 p.m.						
Ball St.	at	Miami (Ohio)	7 p.m.						
Buffalo	at	N. Illinois	7 p.m.						
Bowling Green	at	Toledo	8 p.m.						
Thursday, Nov. 5									
Utah St.	(0-2) at	Nevada	(2-0), 7 p.m.						
Wyoming	(1-1) at	Colorado St.	(0-1), 9 p.m.						
Friday, Nov. 6									
Miami	(5-1) at	NC State	(4-2), 7:30 p.m.						
San Jose St.	(2-0) at	SDSU	(2-0), 9 p.m.						
BYU	(7-0) at	Boise St.	(2-0), 9:45 p.m.						
Saturday, Nov. 7									
Air Force	(1-2) at	Army	(6-1), 11:30 a.m.						
SMU	(6-1) at	Temple	(1-3), Noon						
Tulsa	(3-1) at	Navy	(3-4), Noon						
Liberty	(6-0) at	Virginia Tech	(4-2), Noon						
A-State	(3-4) at	La.-Lafayette	(5-1), Noon						
La.-Monroe	(0-7) at	Georgia St.	(2-3), Noon						
Tulane	(3-4) at	East Carolina	(1-4), Noon						
North Carolina	(4-2) at	Duke	(2-5), Noon						
South Florida	(1-5) at	Memphis	(3-2), Noon						
Michigan	(1-1) at	Indiana	(2-0), Noon						
Nebraska	(0-1) at	Northwestern	(2-0), Noon						
Michigan St.	(1-1) at	Iowa	(0-2), Noon						
West Virginia	(4-2) at	Texas	(4-2), Noon						
Arizona St.	at	Southern Cal.	Noon						
Troy	(4-2) at	Georgia Southern	(4-2), 1 p.m.						
Boston C.	(4-3) at	Syracuse	(1-6), 2 p.m.						
UMass	(0-1) at	Marshall	(5-0), 2:30 p.m.						
App. State	(4-1) at	Texas State	(1-7), 3 p.m.						
N. Alabama	(0-2) at	South. Miss.	(1-5), 3 p.m.						
SF Austin	(4-3) at	E. Kentucky	(2-4), 3 p.m.						
Charlotte	(2-3) at	Mid. Tenn.	(2-5), 3:30 p.m.						
Vanderbilt	(0-4) at	Miss. St.	(1-4), 3:30 p.m.						
Florida	(3-1) vs.	Georgia	(4-1) at	Jacksonville	3:30 p.m.				
Maryland	(1-1) at	Penn St.	(0-2), 3:30 p.m.						
Minnesota	(0-2) at	Illinois	(0-2), 3:30 p.m.						
Houston	(2-2) at	Cincinnati	(5-0), 3:30 p.m.						
Kansas	(0-6) at	Oklahoma	(4-2), 3:30 p.m.						
UTSA	(4-4) at	Rice	(1-1), 3:30 p.m.						
Texas Tech	(4-2) at	TCU	(2-3), 3:30 p.m.						
Fresno St.	(1-1) at	UNLV	(0-2), 3:30 p.m.						
Arizona	at	Utah	4 p.m.						
Angelo State	(0-1) at	ACU	(1-3), 4 p.m.						
FIU	(0-3) at	UTEP	(3-3), 4 p.m.						
Oklahoma St.	(4-1) at	KSU	(4-2), 4 p.m.						
Pittsburgh	(3-4) at	Florida St.	(2-4), 4 p.m.						
W. Kentucky	(2-5) at	FAU	(2-1), 6 p.m.						
Texas A&M	(4-1) at	SCAR	(2-3), 7 p.m.						
Baylor	(1-3) at	Iowa St.	(4-2), 7 p.m.						
La. Tech	(4-3) at	North Texas	(2-3), 7 p.m.						
UCLA	at	Colorado	7 p.m.						
Stanford	at	Oregon	7:30 p.m.						
Tennessee	(2-3) at	Arkansas	(2-3), 7:30 p.m.						
Clemson	(7-0) at	Notre Dame	(6-0), 7:30 p.m.						
Rutgers	(1-1) at	Ohio St.	(2-0), 7:30 p.m.						
Louisville	(2-5) at	Virginia	(2-4), 8 p.m.						
S. Alabama	(3-3) at	C. Carolina	(6-0), 8 p.m.						
Washington	at	California	10:30 p.m.						
Washington St.	at	Oregon St.	10:30 p.m.						
New Mexico	(0-1) at	Hawaii	(1-1), 11 p.m.						
Postponements and Cancellations									
Purdue	(2-0) at	Wisconsin	(1-0),	canc.					

Atlantic Coast Conference									
Conference					All Games				
W	L	PF	PA	W	L	PF	PA		
Clemson	6	0	274	109	7	0	323	109	
Notre Dame	5	0	157	62	6	0	209	62	
Miami	4	1	166	119	5	1	197	133	
NC State	4	2	189	205	4	2	189	205	
North Carolina	4	2	230	169	4	2	230	169	
Virginia Tech	4	2	226	183	4	2	226	183	
Wake Forest	3	2	156	135	4	2	222	149	
Boston College	3	3	169	163	4	3	193	184	
Pittsburgh	2	4	125	167	3	4	180	167	
Virginia	2	4	163	199	2	4	163	199	
Georgia Tech	2	4	129	229	2	5	150	278	
Florida St.	1	4	96	186	2	4	137	210	
Duke	1	5	128	184	2	5	181	203	
Louisville	1	5	171	186	2	5	206	207	
Syracuse	1	5	112	195	1	6	133	233	

Big Ten Conference									
East					W	L	PF	PA	
Indiana					2	0	73	56	
Ohio St.					2	0	90	42	
Maryland					1	1	48	87	
Michigan					1	1	73	51	
Michigan St.					1	1	54	62	
Rutgers					1	1	59	64	
Penn St.					0	2	60	74	
West					W	L	PF	PA	
Northwestern					2	0	64	23	
Purdue					2	0	55	44	
Wisconsin					1	0	45	7	
Illinois					0	2	31	76	
Iowa					0	2	40	45	
Minnesota					0	2	68	94	
Nebraska					0	1	17	52	

NFL									
AMERICAN CONFERENCE									
East					W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Buffalo	6	2	0	.750	198	199			
Miami	4	3	0	.571	188	130			
New England	2	5	0	.286	136	167			
N.Y. Jets	0	8	0	.000	94	238			
South					W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Indianapolis	5	2	0	.714	198	136			
Tennessee	5	2	0	.714	208	184			
Houston	1	6	0	.143	166	217			
Jacksonville	1	6	0	.143	154	220			
North					W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Pittsburgh	7	0	0	1.000	211	142			
Baltimore	5	2	0	.714	203	132			
Cleveland	5	3	0	.625	206	237			
Cincinnati	2	5	1	.313	194	214			
West					W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Kansas City	7	1	0	.875	253	152			
Las Vegas	4	3	0	.571	187	203			
Denver	3	4	0	.429	147	183			
L.A. Chargers	2	5	0	.286	179	185			

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
East					W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
Philadelphia	3	4	1	.438	186	205			
Washington	2	5	0	.286	133	165			
Dallas	2	6	0	.250	185	266			

Recently married woman can't stomach husband's negativity

DEAR ABBY: I am a 39-year-old woman who has been in a relationship for five years and married for two. Abby, I am consumed with regret for marrying this man. He's loyal and has a good job, but he spends most of our money on food (eating out at work, drinking expensive beers, buying tools, etc.) and he is probably the most negative person I know. His negativity is so overwhelming it has pulled me down closer to his level than where I started when we met.

I feel trapped. I don't want to be single at 40, and I know somewhere in there I love him, so I'm working on my own energy so it won't affect me so much. He just makes everything so miserable with his attitude. He exudes bad energy. He pouts, throws temper tantrums, is rude, condescending, and EVERYONE around him can feel his bad moods. He has only recently started therapy and I want to be patient, but I have this loop playing in my head – "I hate his guts!" I know it's not true, but I am so resentful and remorseful for marrying him. Is there anything I can do to save my marriage? Is it even worth it? – Second Thoughts In California

DEAR SECOND THOUGHTS: There is something you can do, and I sincerely hope you will take it to heart. Recognize that "pouting, temper tantrums, condescension and (constant) negativity" is hostile and abusive. I am glad your husband is receiving professional help to improve his behavior and attitude. Now it's time for you to do the same. If you do, it will help you to clear your head and your soul. It will also give you deeper insight into whether this is worth it.

P.S. Saving your marriage will have to be a joint effort. This is not something you can do on your own.

DEAR ABBY: I've been dealing with some emotional stress for well over a year. I've recently found out my wife's ex was much more well-endowed than I am. I understand that's not the most important thing, but it is messing with me mentally. One reason is, a long time ago when she was drunk, she asked me why it was so small. When I came across pictures of him, it all came back.

I feel like we need to talk about it, but I don't know how to start. I know she will get mad and I don't think she would tell me the truth. A lot of things go along with these feelings, which is part of why it bothers me so much. I probably need to just let it go, but it continues to haunt me. We have been married a long time and have had our share of problems. How do I get past this? Any help or guidance would be greatly appreciated. – Not Measuring Up In Alabama

DEAR NOT MEASURING UP: What, exactly, is the "truth" you are afraid your wife will conceal if you bring this out in the open? If she thought you couldn't satisfy her needs, she wouldn't have married you. The question I would like answered is where those old photos were when you stumbled across them. Were you going through her belongings because you feel insecure about things other than your anatomy? This does need to be discussed when you are both sober, because if you remain silent, your insecurity will only grow worse. Please don't wait to do it.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Dear Abby



CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
- 1 Kitty's murmurs
- 6 Further up
- 12 Branch of physics
- 14 Different
- 15 Polar phenomenon
- 16 Trolls
- 17 Before, to bards
- 18 Letter for plurals
- 19 Get wrong
- 21 Kenya's loc.
- 23 Almost-grads
- 26 Forensic science tool
- 27 Hosp. scan
- 28 Honks
- 30 Autumn mo.
- 31 Devotee
- 32 Meat jelly
- 33 Palm off
- 35 Pocket watch chain
- 37 Incan treasure
- 38 Facade
- 39 Banjo kin
- 40 Do embroidery
- 41 Spanish "that"
- 42 Marlins' st.
- 43 Bounding main
- 44 Bill and —
- 46 Orange root
- 48 Luke Skywalker's dad
- 51 "Me" devotee
- 55 Dirge
- 56 Royal order
- 57 Fiery particles
- 58 Zip over the ice
- DOWN
- 1 Taro-root paste
- 2 Checkout
- 3 Motorist scan
- 4 Kitchen gadget
- 5 Lasting aftereffect
- 6 More gigantic
- 7 Quaint lodgings
- 8 Lip cosmetics
- 9 "She Done — Wrong"
- 10 Just get by, with "out"
- 11 Lawyer's thing
- 13 Pickle servings
- 19 Recital extra
- 20 Proportions no.
- 22 Off and on
- 24 Peace of mind
- 25 Flowery shrub
- 26 Remove, as a hat
- 27 Catcher's glove
- 28 Legendary ox
- 29 Flat boat
- 34 Junk food junkie
- 36 Approved
- 42 Word processor choices
- 43 Painter's garb
- 45 Cry from the sty
- 47 Seasons
- 48 Capp and Jolson
- 49 Snooze
- 50 Physician's grp.
- 52 Keogh relative
- 53 Perm follow-up
- 54 Informal wear

Answer to Previous Puzzle

F	A	I	R	V	I	O	L	J	O	T
L	P	G	A	E	C	R	U	E	G	O
U	R	L	S	T	H	O	R	S	E	T
B	O	O	H	O	O	A	N	T	E	S
N	O	E	L	B	Y	E				
			R	A	B	B	I	I	M	P
L	B	S		F	A	L	L		L	O
I	R	I	S		M	U	G	S	A	Y
P	A	L	E		B	R	E	A	M	
			E	P	A			T	E	A
C	O	U	P	E		G	E	R	B	I
I	L	K		K	A	L	E		E	A
T	E	E		E	L	I	A		S	T
E	O	S		S	T	I	R		T	E

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11
	12								13		
	15								16		
				17					18		
	19	20				21	22			23	24
26					27			28			29
30				31				32			
33			34			35	36			37	
38						39				40	
	41				42				43		
			44	45			46	47			
48	49	50					51		52	53	54
55							56				
57								58			

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING:☆☆☆☆☆								
2		5		4	3	8	9	
		7		1	8			5
		9						3
8	9			7			3	2
		2		3		7		
7	5			2			1	8
5						3		
3			5	9		2		
	7	1	3	6		5		4

How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

7	1	6	2	3	8	9	4	5
2	4	5	6	9	7	3	8	1
8	9	3	1	5	4	6	7	2
1	8	7	3	6	5	4	2	9
4	3	2	9	7	1	8	5	6
5	6	9	8	4	2	1	3	7
3	7	8	5	1	6	2	9	4
9	5	1	4	2	3	7	6	8
6	2	4	7	8	9	5	1	3

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

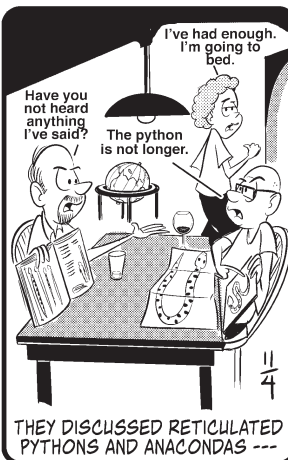
- NOOHR
- TECIH
- LNEETG
- LMAYCL

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Print your answer here:

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



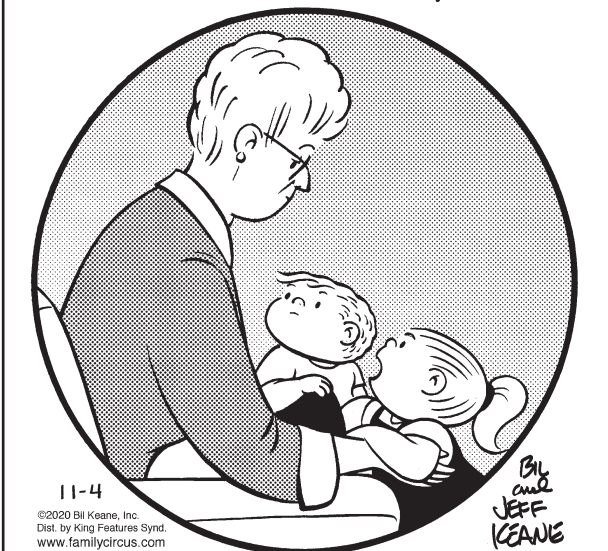
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: BURLY ADAPT JUSTLY DOMINO Answer: The horror movie set in the cemetery had a — BURIAL PLOT

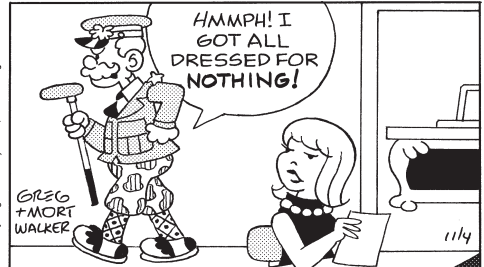
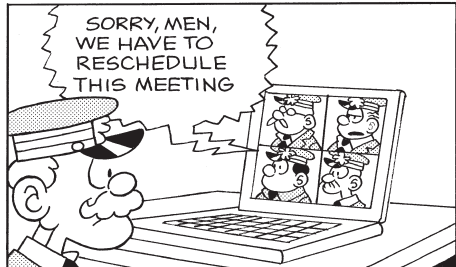
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

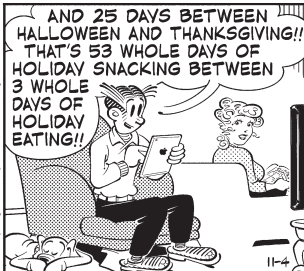


"Really, Grandma? I haven't noticed the world changing."

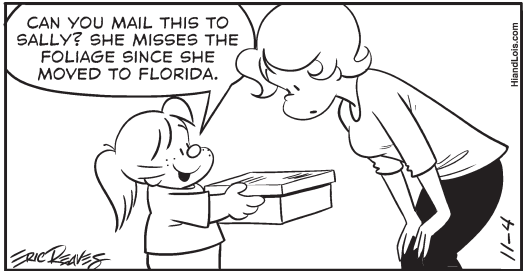
BEETLE BAILEY



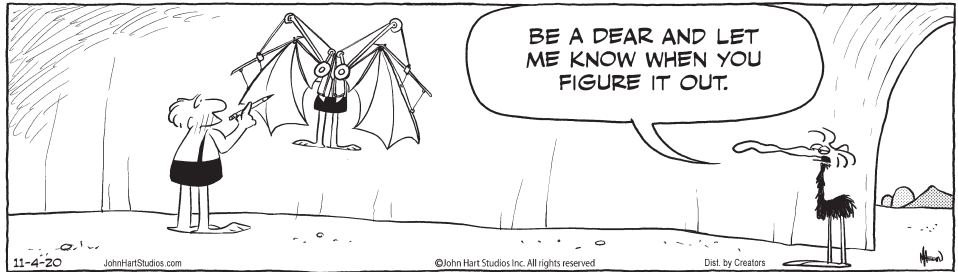
BLONDIE



HI & LOIS



BC



WIZARD OF ID



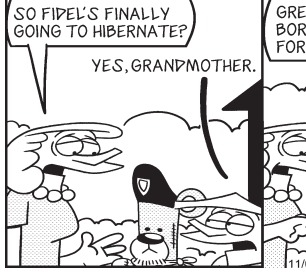
DILBERT



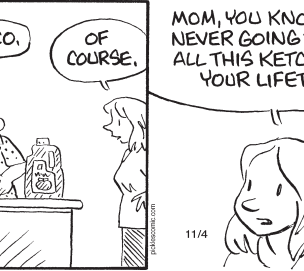
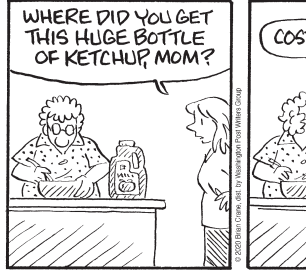
GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



PICKLES



We've all been hurt by the words of others

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: My longtime co-worker has seemed to turn on me and has become so critical toward me and just about everything that touches her. I don't think I've changed in any significant way so I am perplexed why she is acting so hostile. When I ask her what I've done she just says, "You know," but I really don't. What does a person do in a situation like this? – H.W.

A: The way in which we react to hurts and disappointments influences the impact we have on others. We've all been hurt by the words of others. Perhaps more often than we realize, what was said was simply spoken thoughtlessly or carelessly. But sometimes hurtful

words come from others – words meant to sting.

When others criticize us or say something hurtful or insensitive, our first reaction should be to ask ourselves if there is any truth in what they say. If so, we need to be honest with ourselves and ask God to help us correct it. But even if words from others were spoken maliciously, we need to turn our hurts over to God and ask Him to help us respond with forgiveness and grace. We can also use the opportunity to share the love of Christ with

those who may have other things in their lives causing hurt. Offer them a Scripture that might help them think differently.

In addition, if we're honest we have to admit that we sometimes hurt others by our words. We should never excuse it or ignore it, but admit it and seek forgiveness – both from God and from those we've hurt. Then we can make the psalmist's prayer ours: "Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips" (Psalm 141:3).

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"EFK LWIU ... WEF WN SCF WETL

VTDZFP KCFIF LWR ZWRTM CDJF DE

FESAIF IFPSDRIDES MFMAZDSFM SW

XOZDIWEA DEM ZCFFPF." — PDJDEEDC

YRSCIAF

Previous Solution: the cold air, the spooky dangers lurking around the corner.

— Evan Peters

TODAY'S CLUE: F = 19, N = 14

Opinion

SPEAK UP

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
<http://young.senate.gov/contact>

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
<http://braun.senate.gov/>

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2
419 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9467
Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. David Wolkins, R-District 18
Indiana House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9841
h18@in.gov

To email any Indiana lawmaker, go to this website:
www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplaindealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

John 3:36

Mask up or lock down

The way President Trump tells it, the COVID-19 pandemic is all but vanquished in the U.S., with a vaccine just around the corner.

Healthcare workers across the country know better. Coronavirus cases are surging to record highs, a fact that's not attributable to increased testing, according to Adm. Brett Giroir, who leads the federal government's coronavirus testing response. Hospital beds in hard-hit states such as Utah, Idaho and North Dakota are filling up with COVID-19 patients, and if the surge continues, those hospitals could be overwhelmed.

The pandemic is far from over. We're facing another round of economically damaging lockdowns unless the virus can be controlled until, and even after, a vaccine is approved for use and there are enough doses available for every American who wants one. At this moment, the best way to do that is by widespread adherence to social distancing and face mask guidelines as outlined by

the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

But too many people are not following the guidelines, either for ideological reasons, personal discomfort or doubt about masks' ability to stop the virus – an unfortunate result of the fumble by public health experts who initially discouraged the public from buying up masks desperately needed by healthcare workers.

Since then, however, studies have shown unequivocally that masks are effective at preventing virus transmission if used correctly. Furthermore, there are good data that indicate mask mandates save lives. Recently, researchers in Kansas found significantly lower infection rates in counties that observed mask mandates than those that did not.

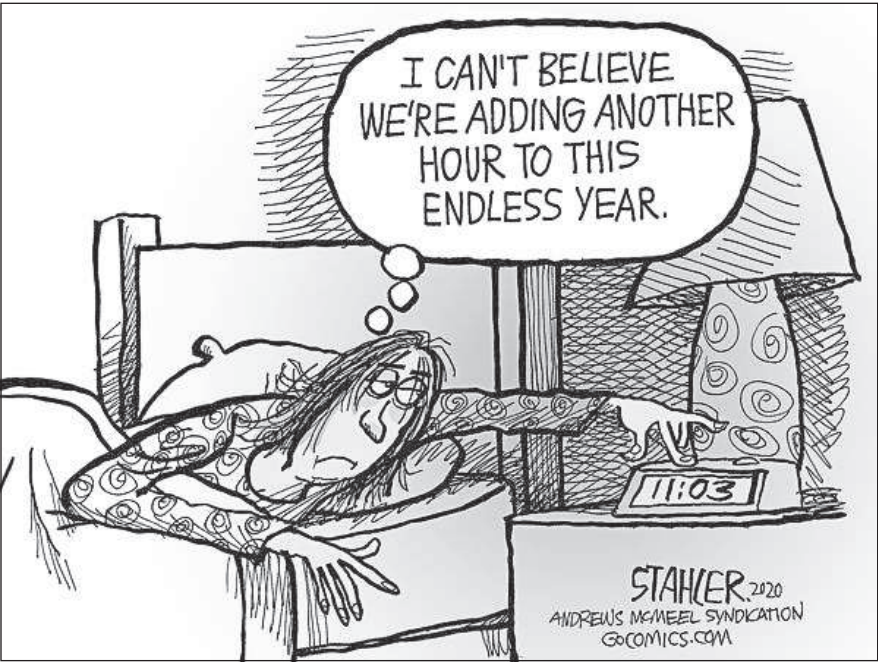
Public health officials have attributed much of the spread in this latest wave to social gatherings where people congregate without masks. Los Angeles County, for example, has been unable to move out of the state's most restrictive

tier because the virus continues to be spread through sports-watching parties and other get-togethers.

Given this, it's clear that it's high time for uniform mask mandates that apply to every corner of the U.S. And the push must come from the top. President Trump is responsible for stirring up much of the antipathy for masks, and he and his coronavirus task force can fix it by putting politics aside and calling on every American to do their part to slow the virus and wear a mask in public places.

At this point, it can hardly matter to Trump's reelection chances if he changes course and demands that governors enact strong mask mandates. About 80 million people have already cast ballots. Beyond that, it's the right thing to do to keep people and the economy as safe as possible. The best way to avoid more lockdowns is to mask up, and the president needs to lead the way.

This editorial was first published in the Los Angeles Times.



The economic policies of the losing party also matter

Many economists have analyzed the policy differences Mr. Biden or Mr. Trump will bring to the U.S. economy. Equally important will be the consequences to the economic policies of the losing party. Our two-party system depends upon the competition of ideas.

The ability of both parties to eventually appeal to a majority of citizens tempers passions and promotes compromise.

If Mr. Trump wins, the Democratic party will surely resume its debate over far-left versus center-left policies that animated their primary. This has thus far been a healthy debate, building on decades of democratic policy. I have strong disagreements with the Democratic platform, but no one can honestly argue they are not mostly serious and target the concerns of most voters. If defeated, the Democrats are unlikely to make substantive adjustments, viewing defeat as a problem with the messenger, not the message. To his credit, Mr. Biden said so himself.

In contrast, if Mr. Biden wins, the Republicans have two truly extraordinary challenges in re-forming a coherent economic policy. The first lies in conjuring any set of policies from an what is today a collection of often contradictory, sometimes transient whims. The second lies in attracting a majority of future voters given the broad electoral challenges that weigh mightily on the party.

For nearly a half century, GOP economic policies coalesced around a broad set of priorities. The party claimed their platform was fiscally prudent, pro-growth, pro-immigration, supportive of free trade, and possessed with a penchant for limited government. The GOP embedded its economics in a broader policy environment that sought to promote American interests abroad. With good reason, the GOP claimed its elected leaders possessed character and competence.

Like the Democrats, the GOP often fell short of their ideals, but they were clear with the framework of who they were and what they wanted to do. Over a half century the GOP held together a coalition with economic policies providing the core domestic policy success. Today that alliance is in shambles,

and rebuilding will prove a daunting task.

Mr. Trump 's economic policies are neither effective, nor those of the successful GOP coalitions of the past. Only his most forgiving and myopic of supporters would claim he supports the core elements of economic conservatism. The 2019 budget bill was a fiscal calamity, creating deficits that would've made the most profligate Democrat blush. Mr. Trump is not only anti-immigration across myriad policies, he inexplicably curtailed the in-migration of the best-educated foreigners. His immigration policies aren't about economic ascendancy, but something else altogether.

The GOP can claim only transient success on regulatory reform. Lacking the competence to pass legislation, the entirety of the Trump reforms can be erased by a new president. His trade war proved a disaster. China emerges stronger in its wake while the U.S. slipped away from important international institutions that formed a fire-wall against China's trade practices. By late 2019, the Midwest was effectively in recession because of the Trump trade war. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which I praised in this column, achieved few of its policy goals, undone trade war follies. This has been an inchoate four years.

The COVID-19 pandemic is now the most consequential executive branch failure in the 244 years of the Republic. It amplified Mr. Trump's substantial flaws in character and competence. He failed to confront the pandemic and support basic, uncontroversial public health measures. Instead, he lost his nerve over the stock market and lied repeatedly about the risks of the disease.

Along the way, Mr. Trump ruptured the moral judgment of large numbers of his supporters. The indecent obeisance shown by those who proudly shun masks and social distancing ranks alongside the worst impulses of the human experience. For these Americans, the coming months should be a time of repentance and reflection.

The challenge to future GOP leaders is that Mr. Trump soiled nearly every high ideal that held together the conservative movement for a half century. He replaced them with a yawning emptiness. In the midst of a global pandemic and worst economic downturn since the Great Depression, the GOP could not even

summon the basic competence to offer a party platform. Instead of appealing to the boundless character and courage of the American people, Mr. Trump and his sycophants ridiculed them for wearing masks. This is a party wholly bereft of ideas.

The future of the GOP coalition is decidedly bleak. A recent Pew poll shows Mr Trump winning only among voters older than 65 and white voters who have not attended college. Ronald Reagan twice won election with a majority of the 18-24 year-old voters, while Mr. Trump is losing them by 3 to 1. I was one of those 18-year-olds who voted for Mr. Reagan in 1980. In this election, Mr. Trump is poised to lose badly among those now 55-64 year-olds who helped sweep Ronald Reagan into office.

In short, Mr. Trump gutted the conservative coalition, retaining popularity only with the most rapidly shrinking segment of future voters. Perhaps worst of all, his repeated winks and nods to the previously torpid morons of the white nationalist movement have poisoned the party. This behavior is so repulsive that many Americans will never again consider the GOP palatable, no matter the strength of their economic platform. In short, if you wish to eradicate a successful political coalition, Mr. Trump provides a comprehensive example. This has serious post-election consequences.

If Mr. Trump wins, his administration faces a Congress with clear and popular policy alternatives with whom he must compromise to pass any legislation. A victorious Mr. Biden faces no such constraint. There are no broadly held, coherent, affirmative ideas in the GOP opposition. If Mr. Biden seeks compromise, it will be on his terms, with an eye towards expanding the Democratic coalition for a generation.

Michael J. Hicks, PhD, is the director of the Center for Business and Economic Research and the George and Frances Ball distinguished professor of economics in the Miller College of Business at Ball State University. Hicks earned doctoral and master's degrees in economics from the University of Tennessee and a bachelor's degree in economics from Virginia Military Institute. He has authored two books and more than 60 scholarly works focusing on state and local public policy, including tax and expenditure policy and the impact of Wal-Mart on local economies.

The Trump support you don't see

Everyone can see President Donald Trump's rallies. In the final days of the campaign, he is jetting from swing state to swing state, drawing big crowds to outdoor airport events as he makes his closing argument for reelection.

But there are also pro-Trump events that aren't covered in the media. A case in point was a recent road rally, with thousands of Trump supporters jumping in their cars and pickup trucks to drive through parts of Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia. Organizers estimated the rally included about

2,000 vehicles, each with two, three or more people inside. Gatherings like it have been going on for months in some of the places President Trump needs to win most if he is to be reelected.

And here is a striking part – the rallies are not the work of the Trump campaign. The tri-state road rally was organized and staged by local Trump supporters, linked together largely by Facebook, who want to show that enthusiasm for the president in western Pennsylvania and surrounding areas is not just strong, but stronger than it was when Trump eked out a victory in Pennsylvania in 2016. If Trump wins this critical state, it will owe in significant part to this organic movement, and the energetic organizers who have nothing to do with his official campaign.

The route of the rally – St. Clairsville, Ohio, to Wheeling, West Virginia, to Washington, Pennsylvania – was in the heart of oil and gas country. Many, many of the participants had either direct or indirect connections to the energy industry. (The most concise statement on that came from a man from Greene County, Pennsylvania, who said, "Yes, I am connected to the energy industry, because I've got electricity and gas in my house." That was a short way of saying how important the industry is to all of us.)

The participants were well aware of Joe Biden's recent pledge to "transition" away from oil and gas. To them, that's Biden's way of saying he wants to destroy the oil and gas industry. And for them, the only answer to that is to reelect President Trump.

"We're here because we believe he is the only way we're going to have an economy in the future," said Sherri, from Claysville, Pennsylvania. "We're a big oil and gas family" said Kristie, from Washington. "We're living the American dream because of the oil and gas industry." "The enthusiasm for Trump is unreal," said Maria, also from Washington, whose husband could not attend because he was at his job at a coal mine in nearby Waynesburg.

The rally was organized by Amy Savage, founder and owner of a company called Oil and Gas Safety Supply. Savage came to the area with the fracking boom in 2012. She built a business selling hard hats and flashlights and gas monitors and eye protection and all sorts of flame-resistant clothing. She said the area enjoyed a big boom when Trump was elected.

"Immediately, the oil fields in Pennsylvania were getting back to work," she explained. "They were drilling, drilling, drilling, and fracking, fracking, fracking. There were more oil and gas workers, more truck drivers, more hotels, more restaurants, more shopping centers. This area has exploded in the last three years with this influx of people. It was an economic explosion because you had a president standing behind the oil and gas industry in these three states, saying we need to be energy independent."

"And now, Joe Biden is going to put an end to it," Savage continued. "Anybody who watched the debate heard those words come out of his mouth. When I heard it, it sent chills down my spine. He's going to pull the rug out from under these three states."

That was what motivated the thousands who gathered recently. Americans didn't see their rally on the news, because it wasn't covered. But it was important. If Trump wins Pennsylvania – and that would mean he'd have a good chance at winning a second term – he might well owe his victory to his grassroots supporters' work on the road. Jumping in their cars and trucks and inviting others to come along has heightened the enthusiasm in oil and gas country. Look for them to keep driving all the way to Election Day.

Byron York is chief political correspondent for The Washington Examiner.



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IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

For Protestant pastors, 2020 election echoes 2016

For pastors in America’s Protestant pulpits, Election Day 2020 is starting to look a lot like 2016.

Most evangelicals whose priorities mesh – for the most part – with the Republican Party are ready to vote for Donald Trump, according to a LifeWay Research survey. Protestant clergy who do not self-identify as evangelicals plan to vote for Democrat Joe Biden.

The difference in 2020 is that fewer pastors are struggling to make a decision. A survey at the same point in the 2016 race found that 40 percent of Protestant pastors remained undecided, while 32 percent backed Trump and 19 percent supported Hillary Clinton.

This time, only 22 percent remain undecided, with 53 percent saying that they plan to vote for Trump, while 21 percent support Biden.

“There’s still a lot of ‘undecided’ pastors,” said



Terry Mattingly

Scott McConnell, executive director of LifeWay. “Quite a few pastors – for a variety of reasons – want to put themselves in the ‘undecided’ bucket. ...

“Last time around, Donald Trump was such an unknown factor and many pastors really didn’t know what to do with him. This time, it appears that more people know what Trump is about and they have made their peace with that, one way or another. The president is who he is, and people have made up their minds.”

Looming in the background is a basic fact about modern American politics. In the end, the overwhelming majority of pastors who say they are Democrats plan to vote for Biden (85 percent), and the Repub-

licans plan to back Trump (81 percent).

Some pastors have a logical reason to linger in the “undecided” category – their doctrinal convictions don’t mesh well with the doctrines of the major political parties.

The Rev. Tim Keller, an influential evangelical writer who founded Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City, recently stirred up online debates with a New York Times essay called, “How Do Christians Fit Into the Two-Party System? They Don’t.”

In recent decades, he noted, Democrats and Republicans have embraced an approach to politics in which party leaders assume that working with them on one crucial issue requires agreement with the rest of their party platforms.

“This emphasis on package deals puts pressure on Christians in politics,” he noted. “For example, fol-

lowing both the Bible and the early church, Christians should be committed to racial justice and the poor, but also to the understanding that sex is only for marriage and for nurturing family. One of those views seems liberal and the other looks oppressively conservative.”

Keller’s bottom line: “The historical Christian positions on social issues do not fit into contemporary political alignments.” That’s a stance affirmed by large numbers of Catholic, Orthodox and Anglican leaders around the world, as well as many evangelicals.

It’s clear, in the LifeWay survey results, that theology and cultural issues affected the outcomes – in ways that spotlight current tensions in pulpits and pews of all kinds.

Nearly 70 percent of self-identified evangelicals in the LifeWay survey said they will support the

president, compared with 20 percent of clergy in the older, and increasingly smaller, mainline Protestant denominations. Among Black pastors – both evangelical and mainline – 61 percent plan to back Biden, with 6 percent supporting Trump.

What are the issues linked to these decisions? A large majority of pastors in this survey (70 percent) said that a candidate’s stance on abortion was crucial, along with a commitment to protect religious liberty (65 percent). In a question linked to both of those issues, 62 percent said they paid close attention to statements about potential Supreme Court nominees.

But the list of important issues didn’t stop there, with 54 percent of pastors mentioning the state of the economy, along with concerns about national security (54 percent), personal character (53

percent), immigration (51 percent) and racial injustice (51 percent).

Inside those numbers, evangelicals were more likely than mainline pastors (82 percent to 38 percent) to cite abortion as a crucial issue. While 72 percent of evangelicals mentioned religious liberty, 41 percent of mainline pastors did so. Mainline pastors were more focused on racial injustice (73 percent to 44 percent) and slowing the spread of COVID-19 (55 percent to 28 percent).

“Pastors tend to be multi-issue voters,” said McConnell. “They are concerned about a lot of issues in American life. ... When it comes to voting, they’re trying to find a way to stay consistent with the issues at the top of their lists.”

Terry Mattingly leads GetReligion.org and lives in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. He is a senior fellow at the Overby Center at the University of Mississippi.

More Americans on diets than a decade ago, report finds

By **CANDICE CHOI**
Associated Press

NEW YORK — If it seems like more and more people are on diets these days, you might not be imagining it.

A higher percentage of Americans said they’re on a special diet to lose weight or for other health reasons compared with a decade ago, according to a report Tuesday by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The increase comes as obesity rates have continued to climb. The CDC report found that 17 percent of Americans said they were on diets during the 2017-2018 survey period, up from 14 percent a decade earlier. Over the same period obesity rates rose in the U.S. to 42 percent of Americans, up from 34%.

The percentage of Americans who said they’re on a diet is lower than expected given prevalence of diet-related diseases in the country, said Dana Hunnes, a professor of public health and nutrition at the University of California, Los Angeles.

The report notes that about half of American adults have diet-related chronic conditions, such as diabetes and heart disease, and that special diets are a way many people try to manage them. Hunnes cautioned, though, that many people might not consider the way they eat to be a diet.

The report also looked at responses between 2015 and 2018 to determine other characteristics of people on special diets:

- The heavier and more educated people were, the more likely they were to report being on a special diet. The report found 23 percent of Americans who are obese said they were on diets, compared with 17

percent of overweight people and 8 percent of people who were normal weight or underweight.

- More women reported being on a diet than men.
- 18 percent of non-Hispanic white Americans, 16 percent of Hispanic Americans and 15 percent of Asian and Black Americans said they were diets.
- A higher percentage of people 40 and older said they were on diets than those ages 20 to 39.
- Between 2007-08 and 2017-18, diets described as “weight loss or low calorie” grew in popularity, and remained the top category of special diet. Low-carbohydrate diets gained in popularity, while low-fat and low-cholesterol saw a decline.

The findings were based on an ongoing national survey in which participants were asked: “Are you currently on any kind of diet, either to lose weight or for some other health-related reason?”

Becky Ramsing, a registered dietitian and senior program officer at Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future, said that the dietary changes people make in hopes of losing weight can vary greatly. And in some cases, she said people might not understand why the choices they’re making aren’t leading to weight loss.

“They won’t eat bread, but then they’ll go eat a lot of other things that are higher in calories,” she said.

Many diet trends often focus on banning particular foods, Ramsing said. But to make lasting changes, she said people should consider their overall patterns of eating. That will also help address another pitfall of diets, she said: They’re hard to stick to over time.

Midwestern states with few virus rules have low unemployment

By **JOSH FUNK**
Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Five of the six states with the nation’s lowest unemployment rates are in the Midwest, have Republican governors and have almost no restrictions intended to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

The governors say their decisions not to impose harsher restrictions are paying off with fewer business closures and more hiring reflected in the strong jobless numbers. But economists say it’s not so simple. Although businesses that are struggling during the pandemic can benefit when governors opt not to require masks or limit in-door gatherings, other factors may play an even bigger role in producing such low unemployment rates.

And those same rules that could initially help the states’ economies also are blamed for their leading the nation in coronavirus infection rates, raising questions about whether their hands-off approach is sustainable. North Dakota and South Dakota have the most cases per capita in the U.S., and Nebraska and Iowa aren’t far behind.

“If hospitalization and death rates increase, then you have a motivation by politicians to close the economy down. That would be very deadly and push unemployment rates back up,” said Ernie Goss, an economist at Creighton University in Omaha.

For now, though, those Midwestern states have a lock atop the unemployment rankings, far below the national average rate for September of 7.9 percent. Nebraska leads the nation with a 3.5 percent unemployment rate, followed by South Dakota, Vermont, North Dakota, Iowa and Missouri.

Most of the Midwestern

governors imposed some restrictions last spring, but they were among the first to ease them, arguing that they needed to balance efforts to slow the virus’ spread with the need for a robust economy.

“I’ve got to believe that if you shut down harder, you’re going to see a more severe impact to your industries and the longer you’re shut down, the harder it’s going to be for those industries to rebound,” Nebraska Gov. Pete Ricketts told The Associated Press.

Missouri Gov. Mike Parson, who tested positive for COVID-19 in September, has touted a balanced approach to coping with the pandemic. And Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds urged residents not to let the virus dominate their lives.

In South Dakota, Gov. Kristi Noem said: “There’s consequences to what we’ve seen happen in other states – that shutting down businesses, stopping people’s way of life has some devastating impacts. We’re taking a very balanced approach.”

In contrast, Vermont Gov. Phil Scott, a Republican, has worked aggressively to tamp down the virus, including closing some businesses in the spring and imposing a mask mandate. Vermont now has one of the nation’s lowest COVID-19 infection rates along with the third-lowest unemployment rate.

Like the Midwestern states, Vermont is largely rural with industries that weren’t hurt as badly by the pandemic.

Economists say that’s not a coincidence, noting that states dominated by agriculture and some kinds of manufacturing were able to operate closer to normal and managed to bounce back more quickly. That contrasts with states that rely on tourism, such as California, Nevada and Hawaii, which have the nation’s highest un-

employment rates.

“The economy of a rural state has a different structure, so more of the people work in industries that wouldn’t really be disrupted by a need for social distancing like agriculture,” said Eric Thompson, who leads the Bureau of Business Research at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The Midwestern states already had ultra-low unemployment rates before the pandemic, and they benefited early on from a lack of population density, with plenty of wide-open spaces and few major cities where it would be harder to avoid catching the virus. More recently, though, many of those rural areas have seen some of the nation’s highest virus rates.

Even in industries like meatpacking that initially were devastated by workers catching COVID-19, the companies have managed to make changes that have allowed their operations to nearly return to normal.

Thompson said a lack of restrictions may have been most important in the spring. At the height of the shutdowns in April, Nebraska’s unemployment rate peaked at 8.7 percent, which was slightly more than half the national rate of 14.7 percent at that time.

Nathan Kauffman, Omaha branch executive of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, said fewer businesses closed in these states because many of them are in what are considered essential industries.

Ricketts agreed that Nebraska’s mix of industries played a significant role in helping the state’s economy.

“The kinds of things that we’re strong in are agriculture, manufacturing, finance and technology. You’ve just got industries that are not going to be as impacted by a

pandemic,” Ricketts said.

But even if business has remained better in these states, that doesn’t mean they have been completely spared. Restaurants, hotels and other types of businesses are still struggling because people remain wary of resuming their normal shopping patterns, and those economic costs could rise amid spikes in virus rates.

Despite the low unemployment figures, all of the states now have fewer jobs than before the pandemic hit. Nationally, the economy has regained only about half of the 22 million jobs that were lost.

Still, many Midwestern business owners and leaders say they appreciate their governors’ lighter touch.

In Rapid City, South Dakota, Black Hills Bagels never had to close because the wholesale side of its operation continued providing products to grocery stores, and its retail store turned to drive-thru and delivery options, owner Debra Jensen said. It even had trouble hiring the workers it needed this year because unemployment remained so low.

“I’m just happy that the state and the folks in South Dakota made the right decisions to make sure our economy didn’t just bottom out,” Jensen said.

Arik Spencer, president and CEO of the North Dakota Chamber of Commerce, said he doesn’t think shutting down the economy is the right approach, but every state is trying to help the economy while managing the virus.

“We hope that with the thoughtful approach of decisionmakers here in North Dakota, we’re poised to recover quickly. But if there was a silver bullet for recovery, every state in the country would be utilizing that right now,” Spencer said.

Rumbling threats of legal challenges echo on Election Day

By **MARK SHERMAN**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Even before Election Day, the 2020 race was the most litigated in memory. President Donald Trump is promising more to come.

The candidates and parties have enlisted prominent lawyers with ties to Democratic and Republican administrations should that litigation take on a new urgency. A narrow margin in a battleground state could become the difference between another four years for Trump or a Joe Biden administration.

Since the 2000 presidential election, which was ultimately decided by the Supreme Court, both parties have marshaled legal teams to prepare for the unlikely event that voting doesn’t settle the contest. This year, there is a near presumption that legal fights will ensue and that only a definitive outcome is likely to

forestall them.

A Pennsylvania case at the Supreme Court pits Donald Verrilli, who was President Barack Obama’s top Supreme Court lawyer, against John Gore, a onetime high-ranking Trump Justice Department official.

Trump said this weekend he was headed to court to prevent Pennsylvania from counting mailed ballots that are received in the three days after the election. An extension was ordered by Pennsylvania’s top court. The Supreme Court left that order in place in response to a Republican effort to block it.

Trump is unhappy over the decision, even though Pennsylvania will keep those ballots separate from the rest in case of renewed court interest. He spent much of his final days of campaigning railing against the decision, often employing inaccurate characterizations that it would allow “rampant and unchecked cheating” as

well as undermine the law and even foster street violence. No evidence supports that view.

“You have to have numbers. You can’t have these things delayed for many days and maybe weeks. You can’t do that. The whole world is waiting,” Trump said Tuesday at his campaign headquarters.

But Biden legal team attorney Bob Bauer said in a call with reporters on Tuesday that many of the suits fronted by the GOP were designed only to get attention and to arouse unnecessary concern in voters, unsupported by any true legal basis.

“They’re designed to generate the appearance of a cloud over the election,” he said.

In a year when early voting numbers eclipse 2016 figures, Election Day lawsuits have started early. Republicans and a local voter accused county officials in suburban Philadelphia of improperly sorting deficient ballots before Tuesday to give voters a chance to fix

problems. The suit comes after county Republicans noted a pile of ballots set aside, during a walk-through of operations at the county courthouse in Norristown on Sunday.

There’s already been roughly 300 lawsuits over the election filed in dozens of states across the country, many involving changes to normal procedures because of the coronavirus pandemic, which has killed more than 230,000 people in the U.S. and sickened more than 9 million. Legal battles ensued over signature matches, drop boxes and secrecy envelopes.

Like Pennsylvania, North Carolina has seen a court fight between Democrats who support extending the deadline for absentee ballots and Republicans who oppose it. The six-day extension was approved by a state court.

In Minnesota, late-arriving ballots also will be segregated from the rest of the vote because of ongoing legal pro-

ceedings, under a federal appeals court order.

Republican lawsuits have challenged local decisions that could take on national significance in a close election.

In Texas, Republicans asked state and federal courts to order election officials in the Houston area not to count ballots dropped off at drive-in locations. The Texas Supreme Court on Sunday denied the GOP’s plea. On Monday, a federal judge also turned away the effort to invalidate the nearly 127,000 votes. Appeals were planned.

In Nevada, a state court judge rejected a bid by the Trump campaign and state Republicans to stop the count of mail-in ballots in Las Vegas, the state’s most populous and Democratic-leaning county, though an appeal to the state Supreme Court is being considered.

Most of the potential legal challenges are likely to stem from the huge increase in ab-

sentee balloting brought on by the pandemic. In Pennsylvania, elections officials won’t start processing those ballots until Election Day, and some counties have said they won’t begin counting those votes until the following day. Mailed ballots that don’t come inside a secrecy envelope have to be discarded, under a state Supreme Court ruling.

“I still can’t figure how counting and verifying absentee ballots is going to go in some of the battleground states like Pennsylvania,” said Ohio State University law professor Edward Foley, an election law expert.

Trump’s threat of legal action comes as he has been delivering a chaotic closing message, lagging behind Biden nationally and by narrow margins in key states. The president has made a flurry of last-minute campaign stops trying to hold onto states he won in 2016, including Pennsylvania, Florida and North Carolina.

Europe tightens restrictions as virus hospitalizations rise

By **ELENA BECATOROS**
Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — Coronavirus cases hit new daily highs this week in Russia, and Germany and the U.K. announced plans Tuesday to expand virus testing as European countries battled rapidly increasing COVID-19 infections and hospitalizations.

Nations reintroduced restrictions to get ahead of a virus that has caused more than 1.2 million deaths around the globe, over 270,000 of them in Europe, according to Johns Hopkins University, and is straining health care systems.

New measures took effect Tuesday in Austria, Greece and Sweden, following a partial shutdown imposed in Germany Monday and tighter rules in Italy, France, Kosovo and Croatia. England faces a near-total lockdown from Thursday, although schools and universities will stay open.

Infections spiked in Russia, where authorities reported 18,648 new cases Tuesday. It was the fifth straight day of more than 18,000 confirmed cases, compared to the country's daily record of over 11,000 in the spring.

Russia has the world's fourth-highest reported coronavirus caseload with over 1.6 million people confirmed infected, including more than 28,000 who died in the pandemic.

The country lifted most virus-related restrictions this summer, and Russian officials say the health care system can cope. However, alarming reports have surfaced of overwhelmed hospitals, drug shortages and inundated medical workers.

Sweden, where the government skipped the lockdowns other nations adopted for a much-debated approach that

kept much of society open, set new nationwide limits on restaurants and cafes, ordering them to serve only seated customers and with a maximum of eight per table. The Scandinavian country announced local restrictions in three more counties that include Sweden's largest cities.

"We are going in the wrong direction. The situation is very serious," Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Lofven said. "Now, every citizen needs to take responsibility. We know how dangerous this is."

The country of 10 million people has 134,532 reported cases and nearly 6,000 deaths.

Amid the gloom, a partial lockdown in the Netherlands appeared to be paying off; Dutch officials reported the number of new confirmed cases fell 5 percent to 64,087 in the past seven days, the first decline in weeks.

The fall came three weeks after the government put the nation of 17 million on partial lockdown, including closing bars and restaurants, halting amateur sports for adults and urging people to work from home.

Dutch authorities remain concerned the number of COVID-19 patients is putting an unbearable strain on hospitals, and Prime Minister Mark Rutte announced further restrictions Tuesday night.

"It's not going too bad but certainly not good enough. The infection numbers have to go down quicker," Rutte said as he explained that the government was closing cinemas, theaters, swimming pools and museums for two weeks.

He warned that some regions could be placed under curfews if infection rates do not drop, and warned residents of the Netherlands not to travel abroad until mid-January.

Germany eyes antigen tests to keep elderly safe from virus

By **FRANK JORDANS and NADINE ACHOUI-LESAGE**
Associated Press

BERLIN — As Europe tries to break a surge in coronavirus infections, Germany is counting on a new type of test to avoid closing nursing homes to visitors, a move that caused considerable anguish among residents and relatives in the spring.

So-called antigen tests, which look for a specific protein on the virus, were first launched months ago. They are cheap and fast, but experts said at the time they are also less accurate than the standard PCR test, which detects even the tiniest genetic trace of the virus.

Still, Germany — which has managed to contain the spread of the outbreak better than many of its neighbors — announced recently that it is bulk-buying millions of antigen tests each month.

"We have a new strategy," Chancellor Angela Merkel told reporters Monday. "We can now basically perform rapid tests on visitors to nursing and care homes."

Nursing homes will receive up to 20 free monthly tests per resident. These can be used to test patients, staff and — crucially — visiting relatives, who might be unwitting carriers of COVID-19, posing a potentially devastating threat.

"Health insurers will cover the costs for a certain number of visitors each month," Merkel said. "That's huge progress in terms of protection."

Germany has one of the world's oldest populations. More than 24 million people are 60 or older and about 900,000 people live in nursing homes. A further 2.5 million younger people

have serious disabilities.

That means almost 30 percent of Germany's population of 83 million are particularly vulnerable to the virus, Merkel said.

"Almost everyone knows somebody they don't want to infect," she said.

Germany has reported about 550,000 coronavirus cases — less than half the number recorded in Britain, Spain and France. Germany's confirmed virus death toll of 10,669 is also one-fourth of Britain's.

A Health Ministry spokeswoman told The Associated Press that manufacturers have agreed to supply Germany with 9 million antigen tests in November and 11.5 million tests in December.

Experts caution that while antigen tests have become more accurate, they should not be seen as a replacement for the standard PCR method.

Scientists in Switzerland recently scrutinized two widely available antigen tests, sold by Chicago-based Abbott Laboratories and Swiss pharma giant Roche. The researchers concluded that out of 100 people infected with the virus, only between 85 and 89 tested positive using the antigen method.

"It does fulfill the criteria that are published by the (World Health Organization), which should be more than 80 percent sensitivity," said Isabella Eckerle, who heads the Center for Emerging Viral Diseases at the University of Geneva, where the tests were validated.

While the tests are less accurate, they provide quick results, she noted.

"One big advantage of these tests would be that you, for example, can build up a decentralized testing

center," Eckerle told The AP. "So you build up a tent, let's say, in front of a school or in a park, and then people can come. And then after 15 minutes, they will know if they are positive or not."

The tests still need to be carried out by a person qualified to take a nasal swab, however.

"This test is not a home test," she said. "It's nothing that you can do in your home before you visit your grandmother."

Sandra Ciesek, who heads the Institute of Medical Virology at the University Hospital in Frankfurt, says the PCR test remains the "gold standard" for now.

But Christian Drosten, one of Germany's most prominent virologists who developed one of the first PCR tests for COVID-19, has suggested that the antigen method has its uses if people take into account its limitations.

One distinct feature of the new coronavirus is its ability to multiply rapidly in the throat of newly infected hosts, causing them to spread the virus days before they show symptoms. By the time most people are diagnosed, the amount of virus they are expelling when they speak or even breathe has dropped significantly.

While only the PCR tests can determine with near-absolute certainty if someone is infected, argues Drosten, the antigen tests can indicate whether a person is infectious — and therefore a risk to others.

Some experts say a negative result from an antigen test could therefore be sufficient to allow people without symptoms to leave quarantine or return to school or work, giving greater freedoms particularly to children and young adults who are less at risk from serious

illness.

Eckerle, of the University of Geneva, was hesitant.

"I would not call them a game changer," she said. "They are a very nice and very important addition that comes exactly at the right time. But because they are less sensitive than our standard tests, we know that we would probably still miss a small proportion of infectious cases."

That's a risk some countries may be willing to take as the pandemic drags on and the availability of PCR tests reaches its limits.

Antigen tests are already used at nursing homes and assisted living facilities in the United States. Spain warned of faulty tests early in the pandemic, but the World Health Organization has since touted them as an effective tool for low- and middle-income countries.

Roche says it can provide over 40 million antigen tests per month worldwide and aims to more than double that by the end of the year. The company declined to disclose the price of its tests but said that "in pandemic situations like this, cost should not be a barrier to accessing diagnostics."

Abbott said it is providing "tens of millions" of its \$5 antigen test per month and is working to ramp up capacity.

As new restrictions came into force in Germany on Monday with no certainty that they will effectively flatten the curve of infections, Merkel said the country might be able to get as many as 20 million antigen tests in January, offering some prospect of freedom.

"Then we can (...) start thinking about whether we can do this for visits to grandparents, not just care homes," she said.

Afghans mourn those killed in horrific IS university attack

By **TAMEEM AKHGAR and KATHY GANNON**
Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Afghanistan declared a national day of mourning on Tuesday to honor the 22 people killed in a horrific attack a day earlier on Kabul University, which was claimed by the Islamic State group. Most of those killed were students and another 27 people were wounded, some of them critically.

The brutal, hours-long assault on Monday was the second attack on an educational institution in the Afghan capital in as many weeks amid a soaring rise in violence and chaos across the country, even as the Taliban and government negotiators hold peace talks in the Gulf Arab state of Qatar.

The Islamic State affiliate also claimed the earlier attack, on Oct. 24, that killed 24 students at a tutoring cen-

ter in Kabul's mostly Shiite neighborhood of Dasht-e-Barchi. The militant group has declared war on the country's minority Shiites and has claimed a number of vicious attacks since emerging in eastern Afghanistan in 2014.

Outside Kabul University, a small group of demonstrators gathered on Tuesday, demanding a cease-fire and urging the government to withdraw from the negotiations with the Taliban until a permanent end to hostilities is declared. Some held signs reading "why are you killing us?"

Mohammad Rahed, a policy and public administration student killed in the attack, posted a video to social media just days before the assault, where he urged people to live each moment and to "live with a smile." The video was widely shared after the attack.

His father told local media his son wanted to be president of Afghanistan and "honestly

serve my people."

Meanwhile, President Ashraf Ghani warned that the perpetrators would be pursued.

"We will not remain silent. We will take the revenge," he said in a video message Tuesday. "Our brave forces are after you everywhere and they will eliminate you."

The assault on the university was condemned by the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. Human rights groups have expressed their outrage and Torek Farhadi, a political commentator in Kabul and former government advisor, called for a "transparent investigation" into security in the Afghan capital to determine how heavily armed gunmen gained access to the country's largest educational institution.

The Islamic State group is not part of peace talks underway in Qatar and despite its claims of responsibility, the

government has blamed the Taliban for the attacks. Under an agreement signed with the U.S., the Taliban have committed to fighting militancy, specifically the Islamic State group.

The government's lead negotiator in peace talks, Mohammad Masoom Stanekzai, called for an immediate cease-fire announcement from the Taliban.

The Taliban, which condemned the attack on the university and denied involvement within hours of its start, have refused to declare a cease-fire, saying it would be part of the negotiations.

But if not a cease-fire, then a significant reduction in violence has taken on increasing importance as Washington's peace envoy Zalmay Khalilzad on Monday made a surprise visit to Pakistan, calling on Islamabad to urge the insurgent movement to reduce violence.

Turkish rescuers pull girl from rubble 4 days after quake

By **MEHMET GUZEL and SUZAN FRASER**
Associated Press

IZMIR, Turkey — Rescuers in the Turkish city of Izmir pulled a young girl out alive from the rubble of a collapsed apartment building Tuesday, four days after a strong earthquake hit Turkey and Greece and as hopes of reaching survivors began to fade.

Wrapped in a thermal blanket, the girl was taken into an ambulance on a stretcher to the sounds of applause and chants of "God is great!" from rescue workers and onlookers.

Health Minister Fahrettin Koca identified her as 3-year-old Ayda Gezgin on Twitter. The child had been trapped inside the rubble for 91 hours since Friday's quake struck in the Aegean Sea and was the 107th person to have been pulled out of collapsed buildings alive.

After she was pulled from the rubble, little Ayda called out for her mother, in video of the rescue broadcast on television.

But Ayda's mother did not survive. Her body was found amid the wreckage hours later. Her brother and father were not inside the building at the time of the quake.

Rescuer Nusret Aksoy told reporters that he was sifting through the rubble of the toppled eight-floor building when he heard a child's scream and called for silence. He later located the girl in a tight space next to a dishwasher.

The girl waved at him, told him her name and said that she was okay, Aksoy said.

"I got goosebumps and my colleague Ahmet cried," he told HaberTurk television.

Ibrahim Topal, of the Humanitarian Relief Foundation, or IHH said: "My colleague and I looked at each other like 'Did you

hear that, too?' We listened again. There was a very weak voice saying something like 'I'm here.' Then we shut everything down, the machines, and started listening again. And there really was a voice."

Health ministry officials said the girl was in good condition but would be kept under observation in the hospital for a while. She asked for meatballs and a yoghurt drink on her way to the hospital, state-run Anadolu Agency reported.

Her rescue came a day after another 3-year-old girl and a 14-year-old girl were also pulled out alive from collapsed buildings in Izmir, Turkey's third-largest city.

"We will not lose hope (about finding survivors) until our search-and-rescue efforts reach the last person under the wreck," President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said following a Cabinet meeting.

Erdogan said around 6,700 people who lost their homes or were too frightened to return to them were being temporarily housed in tents. Authorities on Tuesday began assembling containers homes for the survivors, he added.

Meanwhile, the death toll in the earthquake climbed to 112, after emergency crews retrieved more bodies from toppled buildings in the city. Officials said 138 quake survivors were still hospitalized, and three of them were in serious condition.

The U.S. Geological Survey registered the quake's magnitude at 7.0, though other agencies recorded it as less severe.

The vast majority of the deaths and some 1,000 injuries occurred in Izmir. Two teenagers also died and 19 people were injured on the Greek island of Samos, near the quake's epicenter in the Aegean Sea.

Gunman who killed 4 in Vienna attack had sought to join IS

By **PHILIPP JENNE and GEIR MOULSON**
Associated Press

VIENNA — A man who had previously tried to join the Islamic State group rampaged in Vienna armed with an automatic rifle and a fake explosive vest, fatally shooting four people before he was killed by police, Austrian authorities said Tuesday.

Witnesses described dozens of screaming people fleeing the sounds of gunshots Monday night in a nightlife district crowded with revelers enjoying the last hours before a coronavirus lockdown.

Others barricaded themselves inside restaurants for hours until they were sure the danger had passed. Video that

appeared to be from the scene showed a gunman, dressed in white coveralls, firing off bursts seemingly at random as he ran down the Austrian capital's dark cobblestone streets.

While the attack lasted just minutes, authorities said only on Tuesday afternoon that there was no indication of a second attacker — adding to tension in the capital as residents were urged to stay home.

Two men and two women died from their injuries in the attack — including one German woman, according to Germany's foreign minister. Authorities said a police officer who tried to get in the way of the attacker was shot and wounded, along with 21 other people.

The suspect was identified as a 20-year-old Austrian-North Macedonian dual citizen with a previous terror conviction for attempting to join the Islamic State group in Syria. Police searched 18 properties as well as the suspect's apartment, detaining 14 people associated with the assailant who are being questioned, Interior Minister Karl Nehammer said.

"Yesterday's attack was clearly an Islamist terror attack," Chancellor Sebastian Kurz said. "It was an attack out of hatred — hatred for our fundamental values, hatred for our way of life, hatred for our democracy in which all people have equal rights and dignity."

The attacker, identified as

Kujtim Fejzulai, was armed with a fake explosive vest, an automatic rifle, a handgun and a machete, according to Nehammer. Before the attack he posted a photograph on a social media account showing him posing with the rifle and machete, Nehammer said.

Fejzulai was sentenced to 22 months in prison in April 2019 but was granted early release in December.

"The fact is that the terrorist managed to deceive the judicial system's deradicalization program" to secure his release, Nehammer said, adding that the system should be re-evaluated.

He also said that an attempt to strip Fejzulai of his Austrian citizenship had failed for lack of enough evidence.